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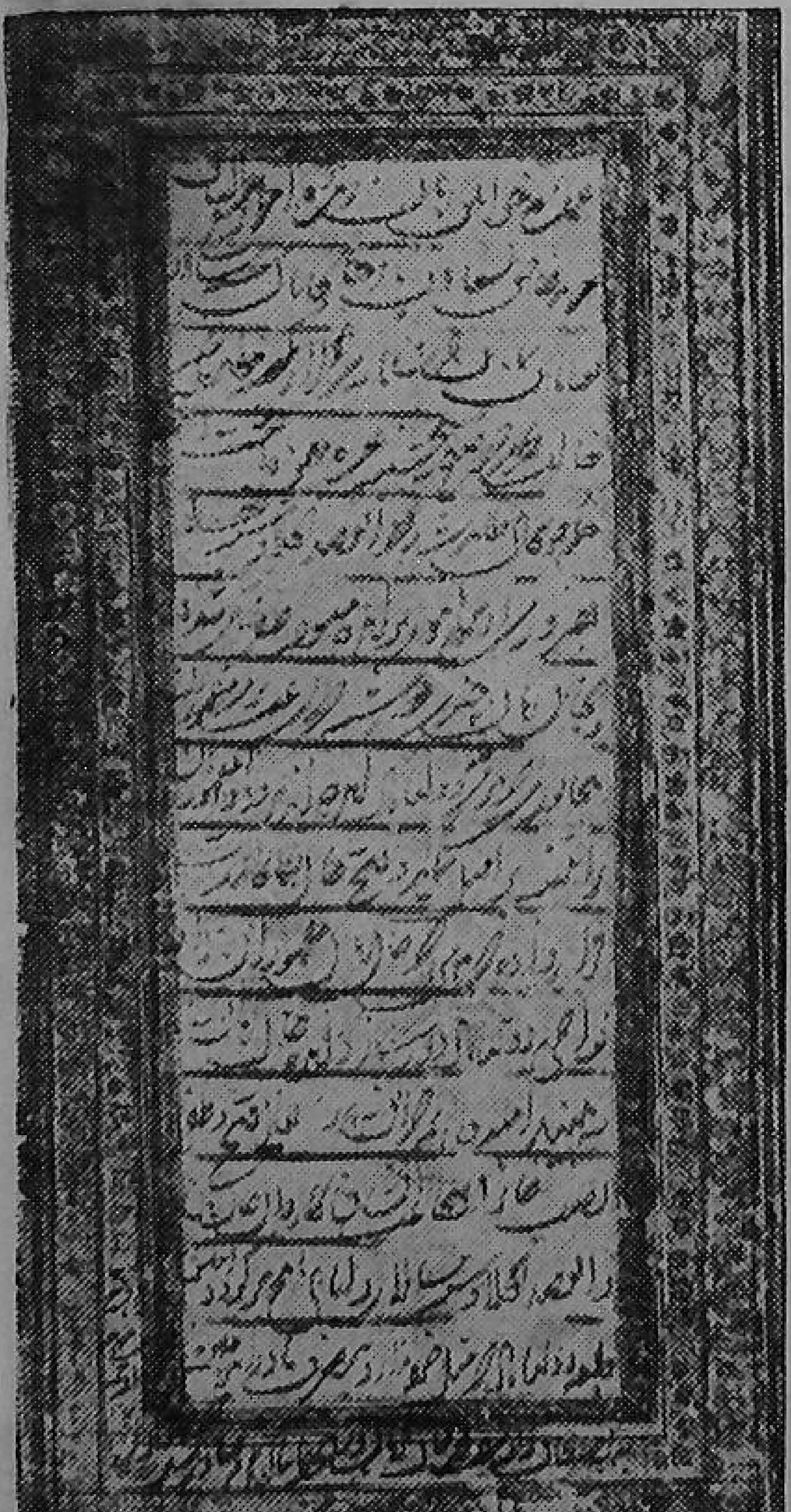

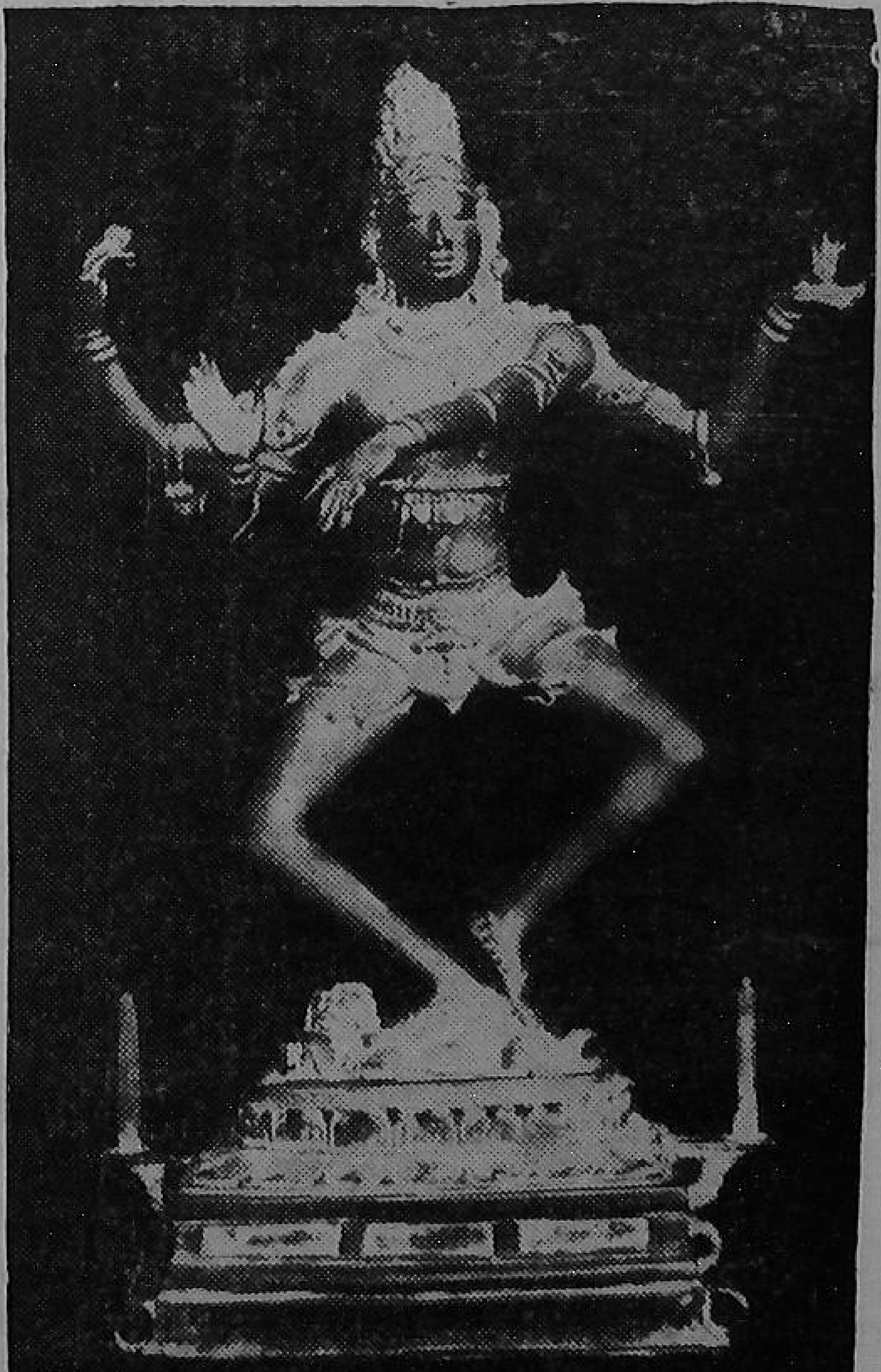

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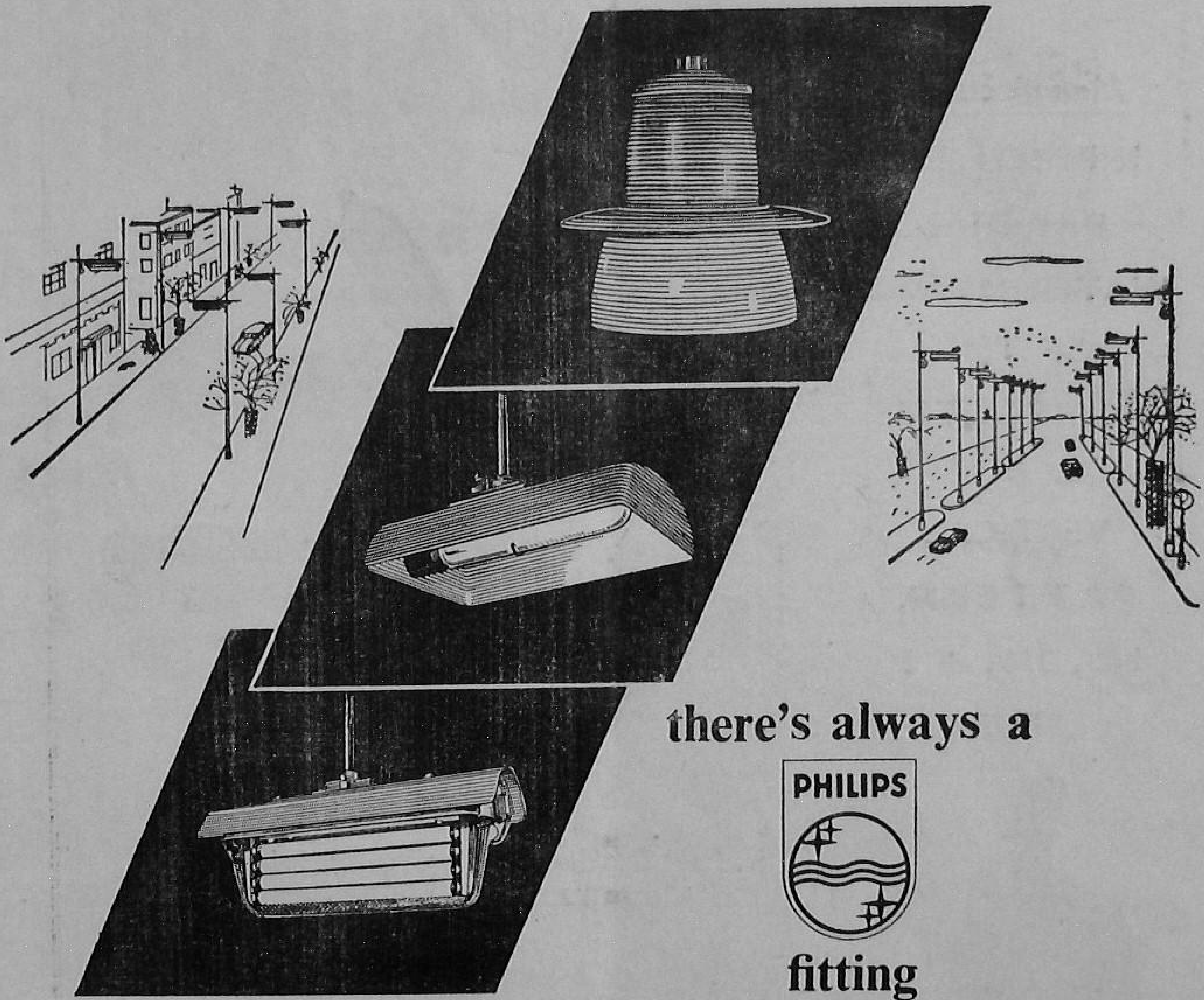

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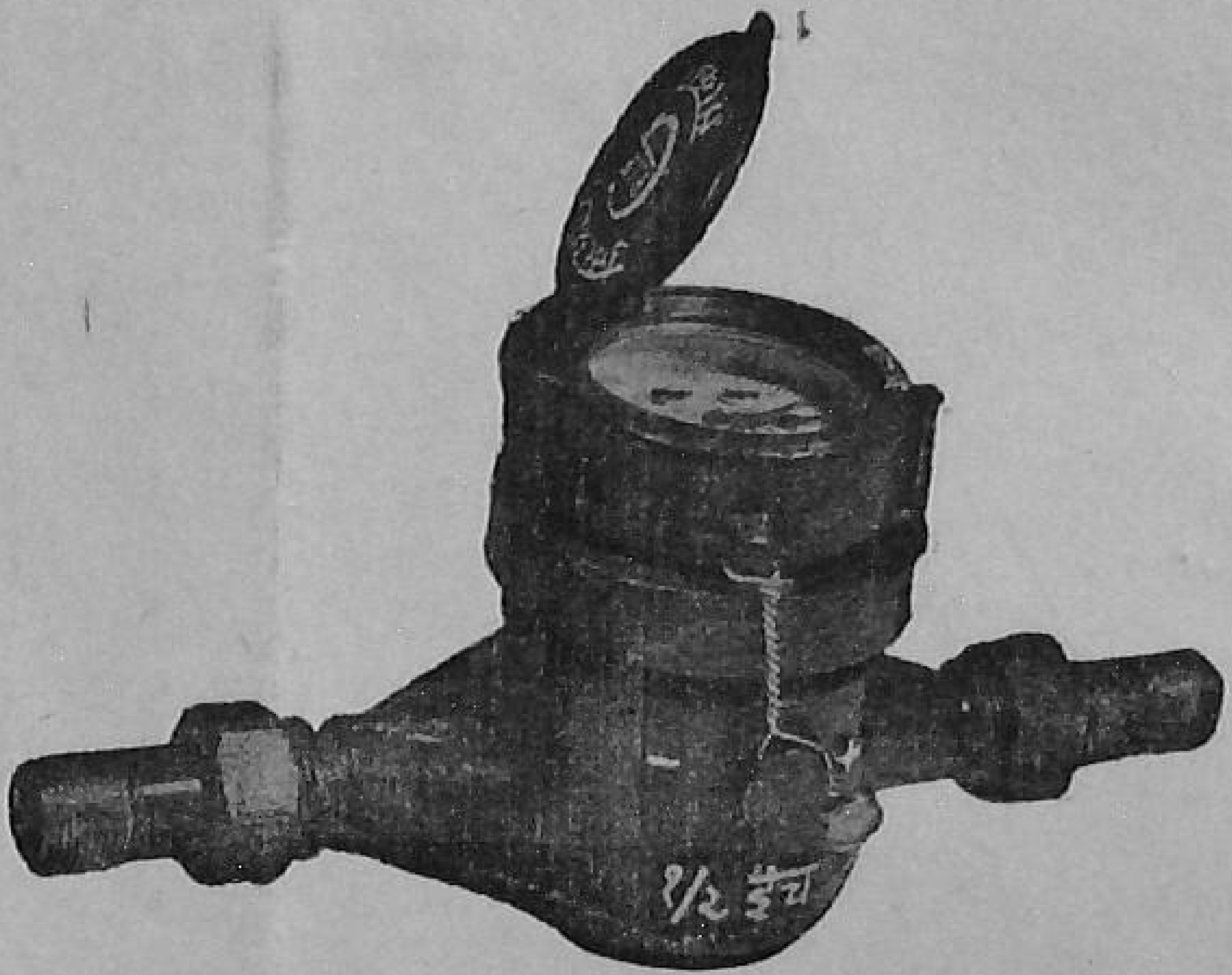

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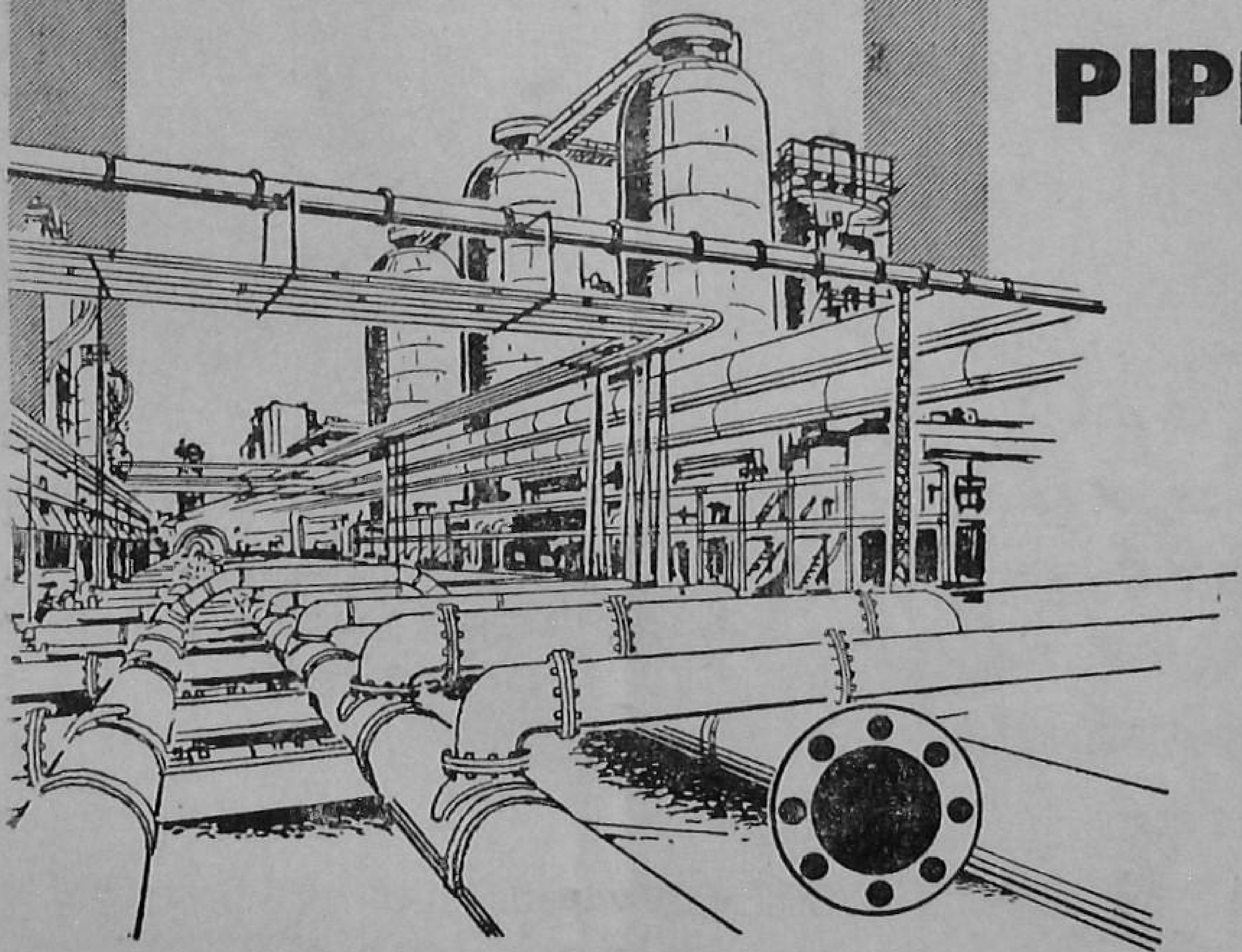

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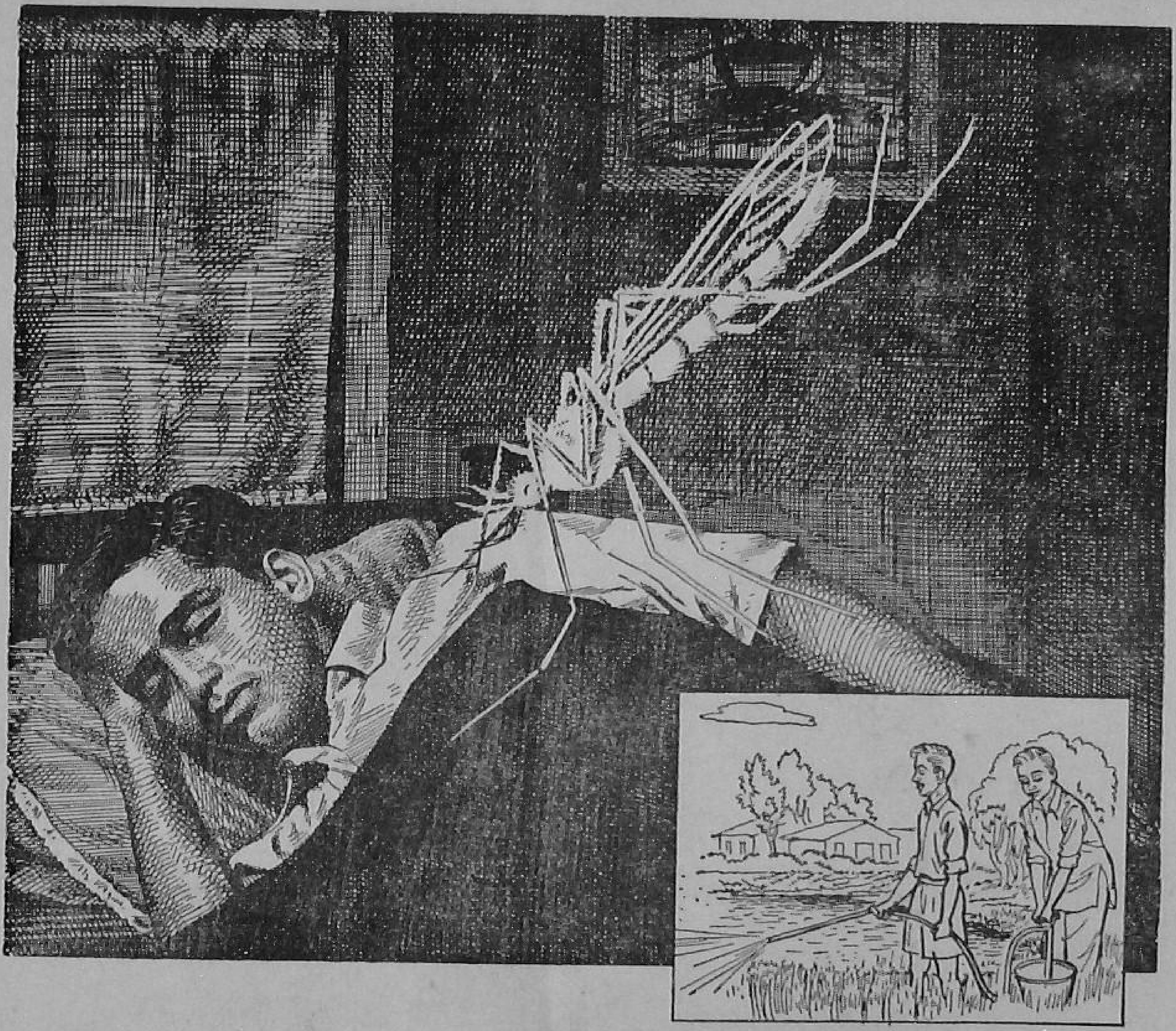

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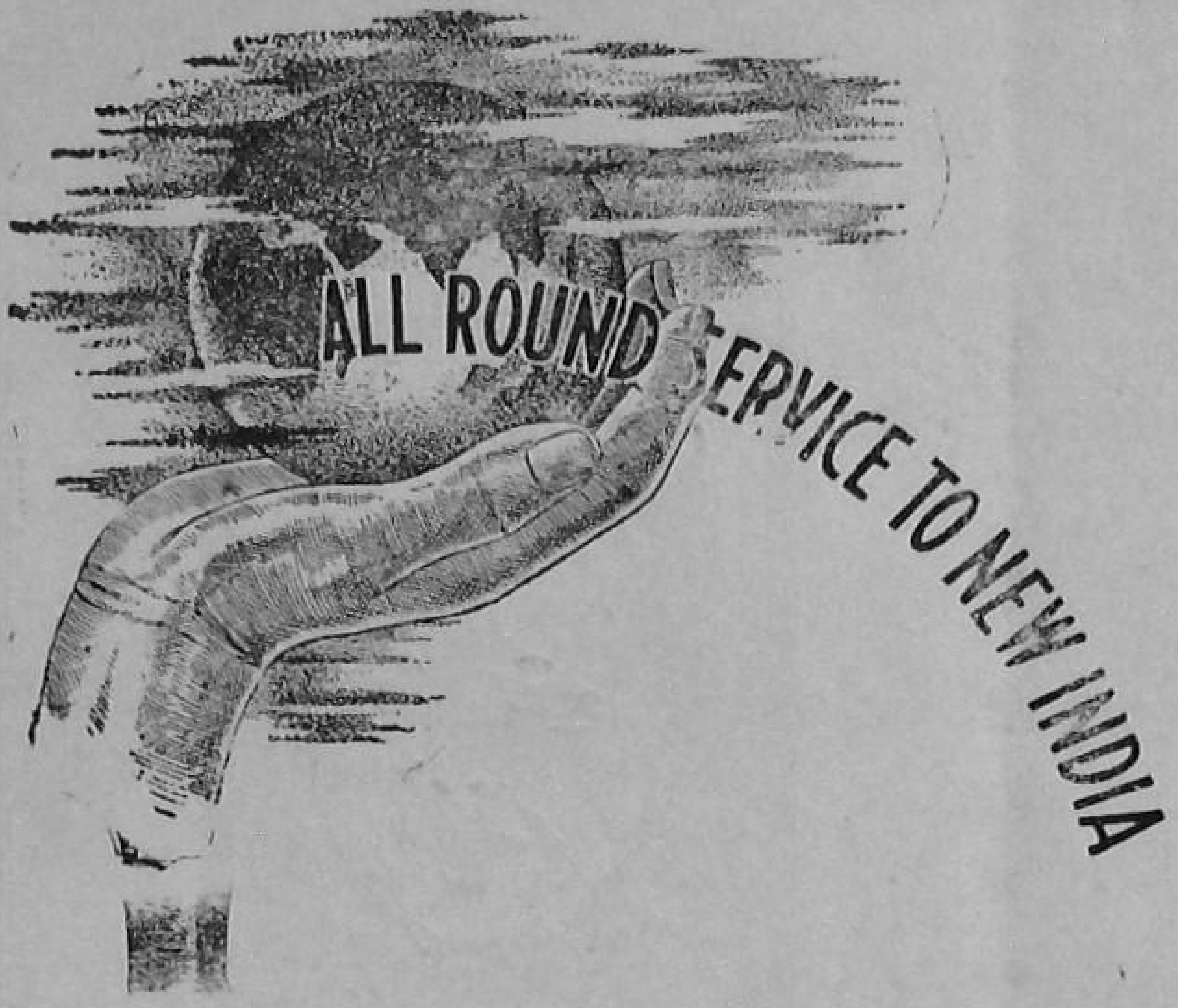

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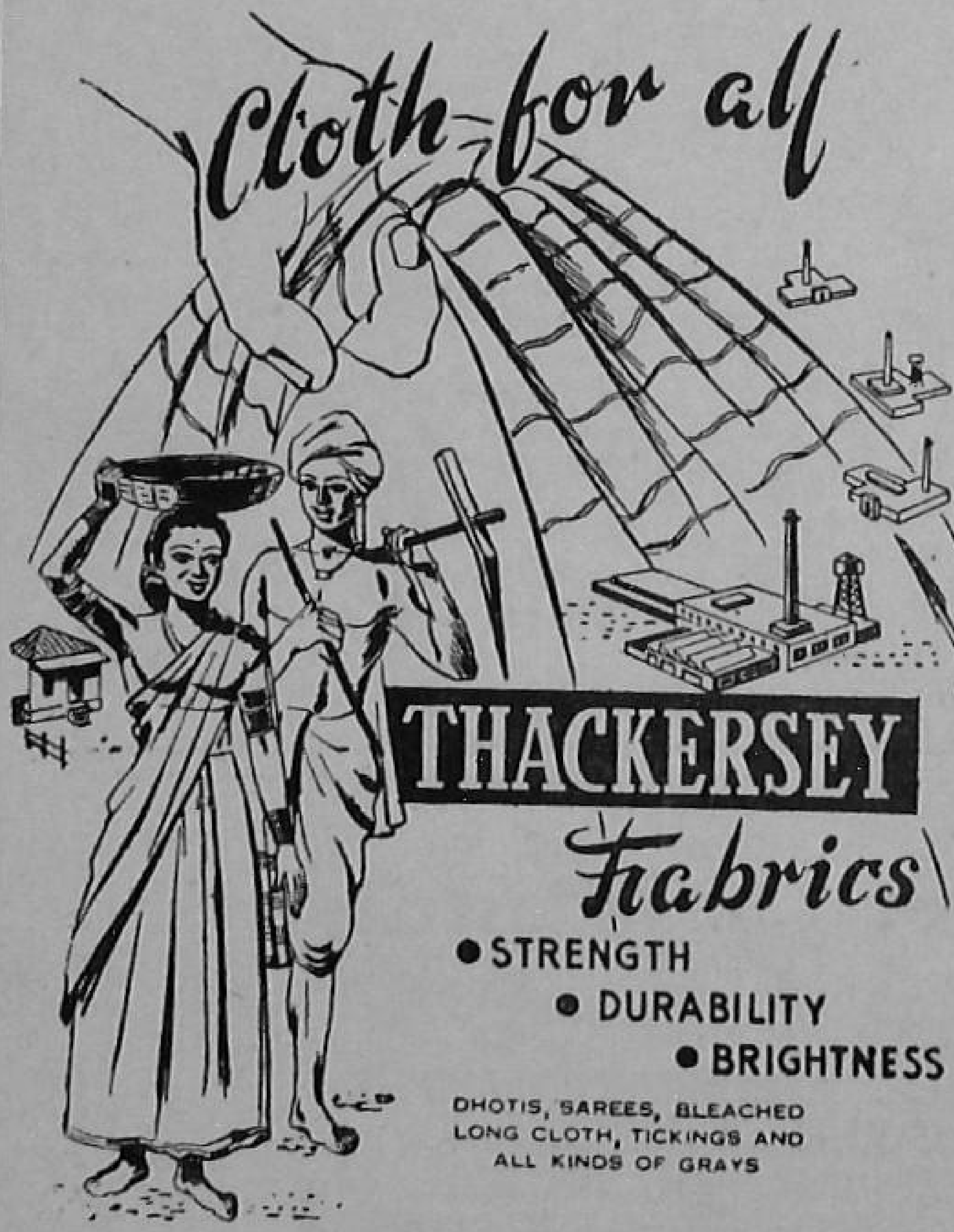

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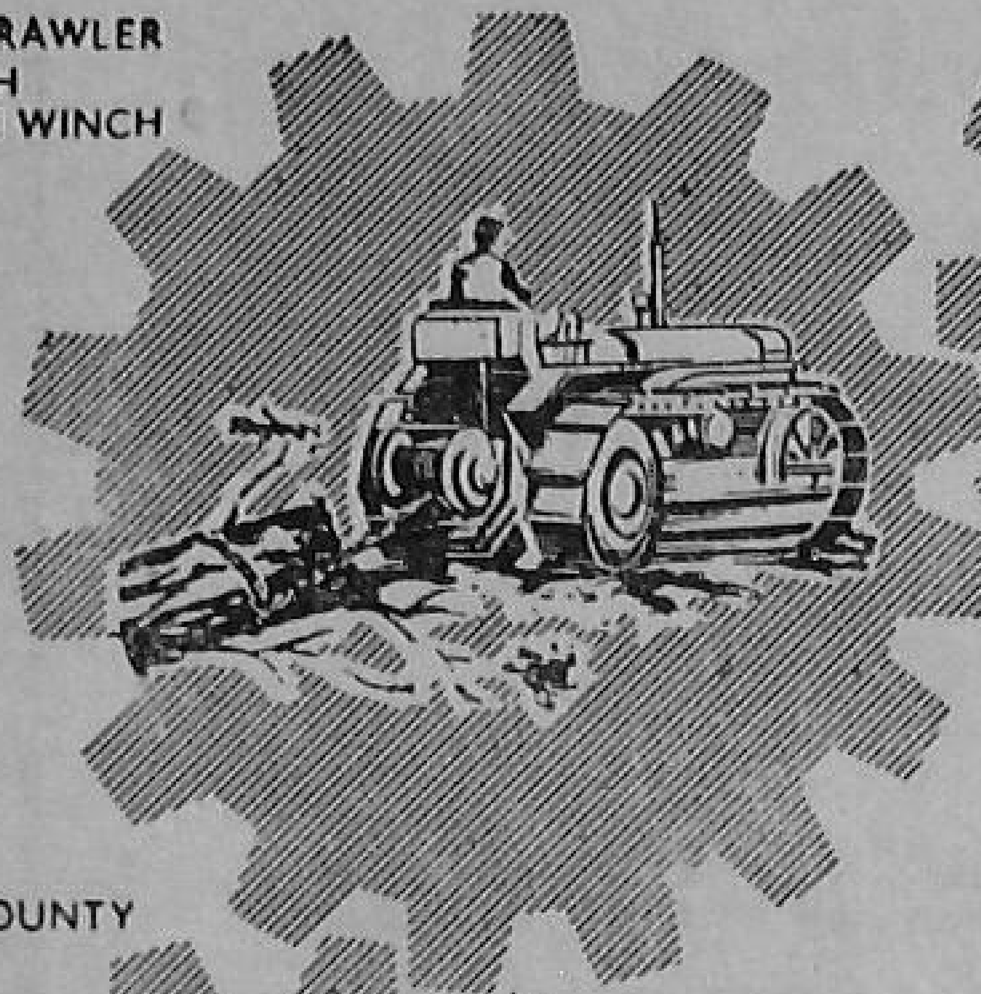

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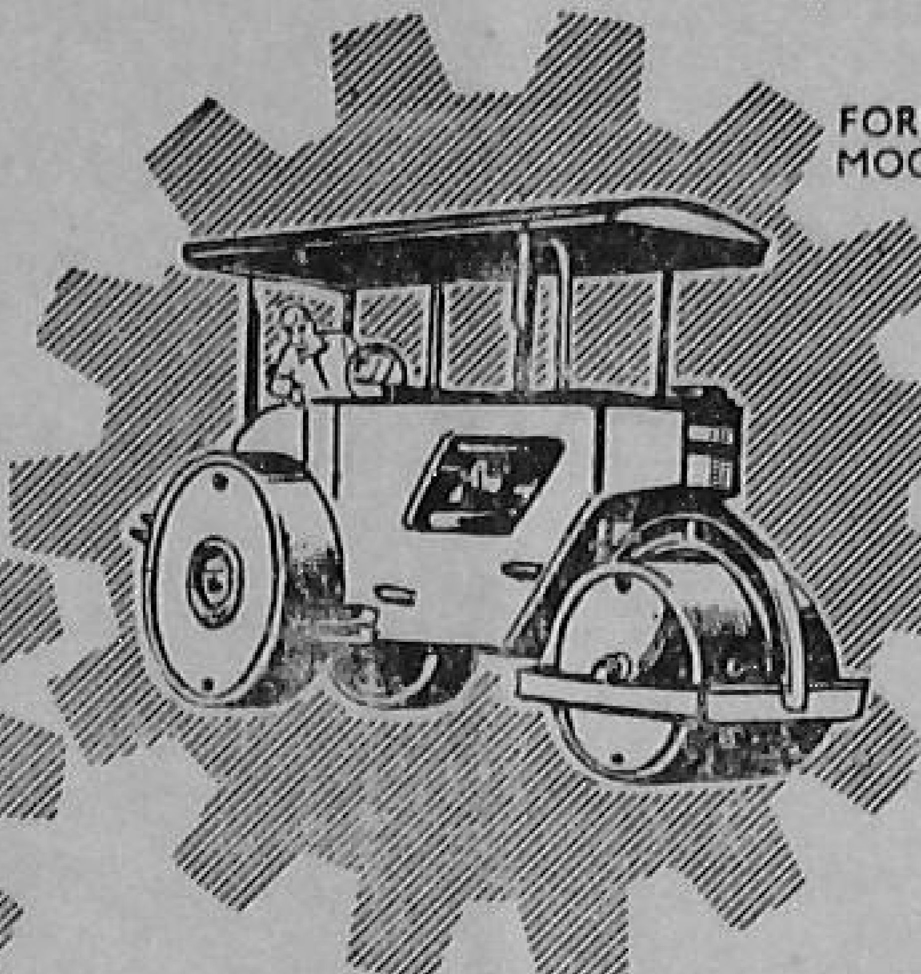

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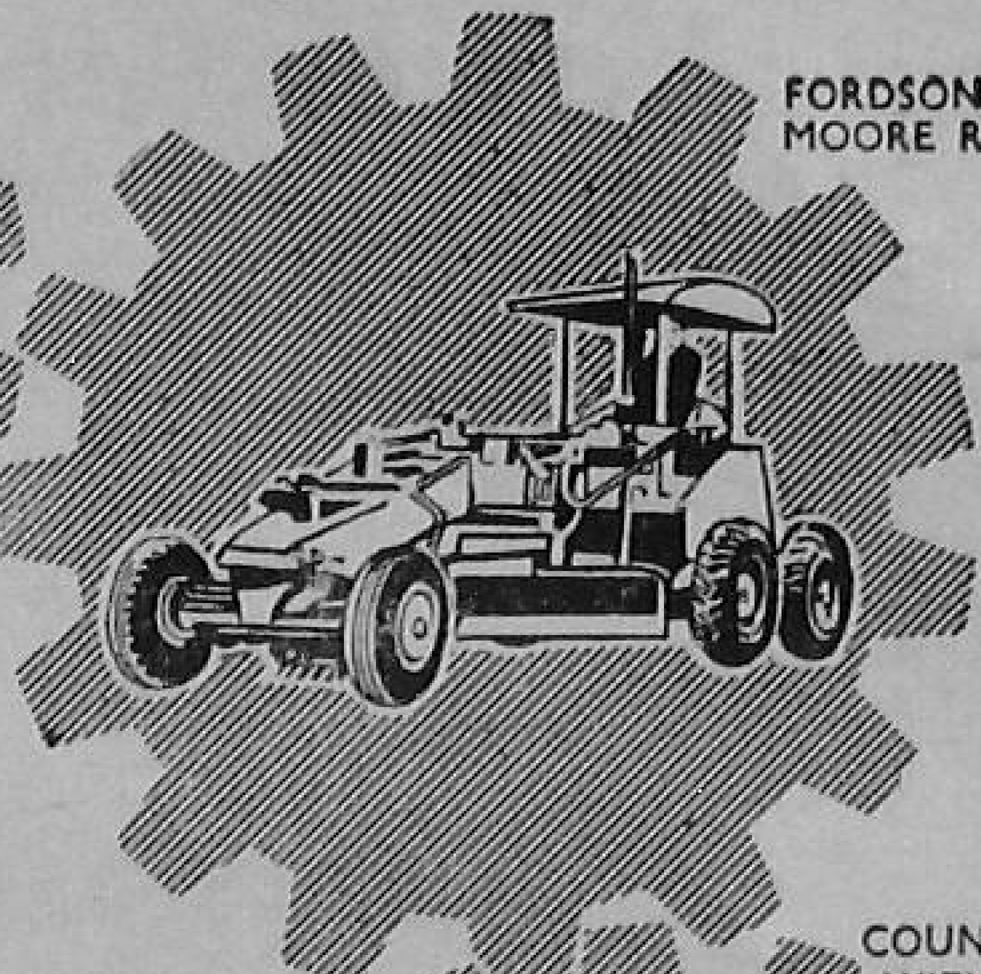

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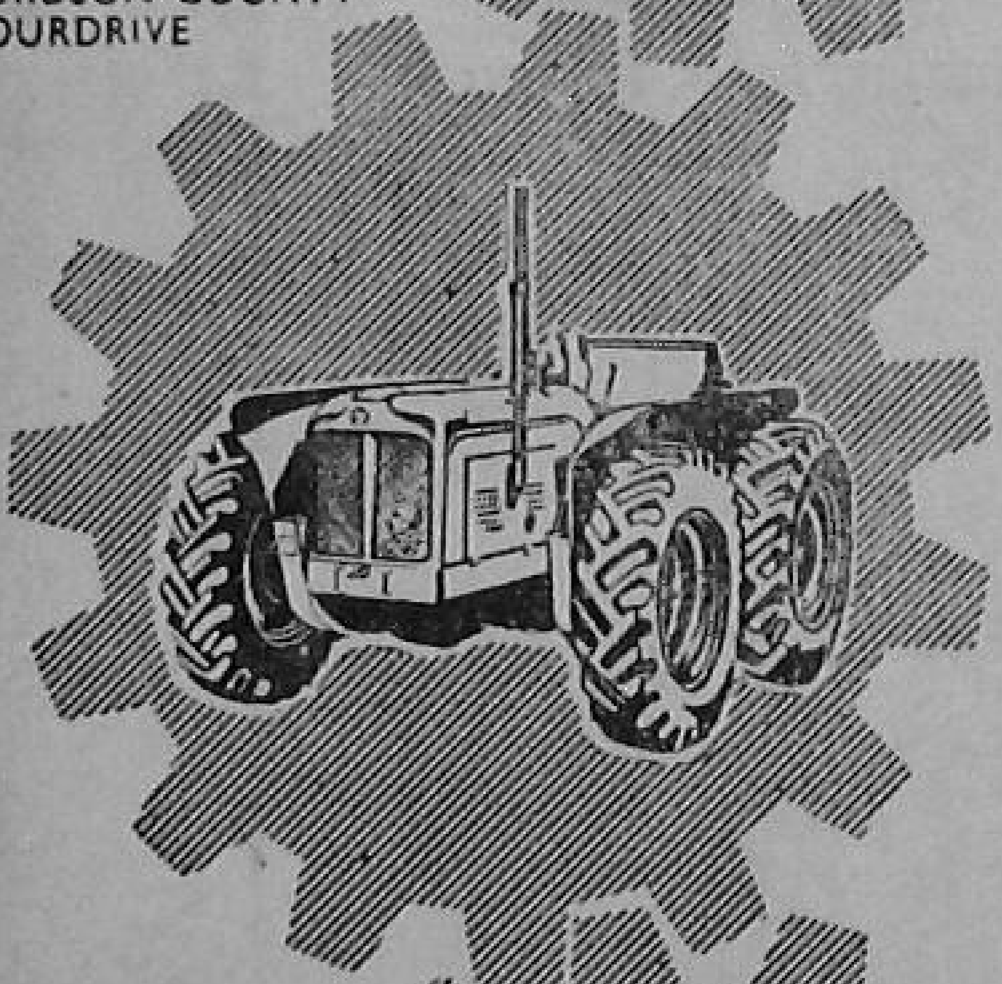

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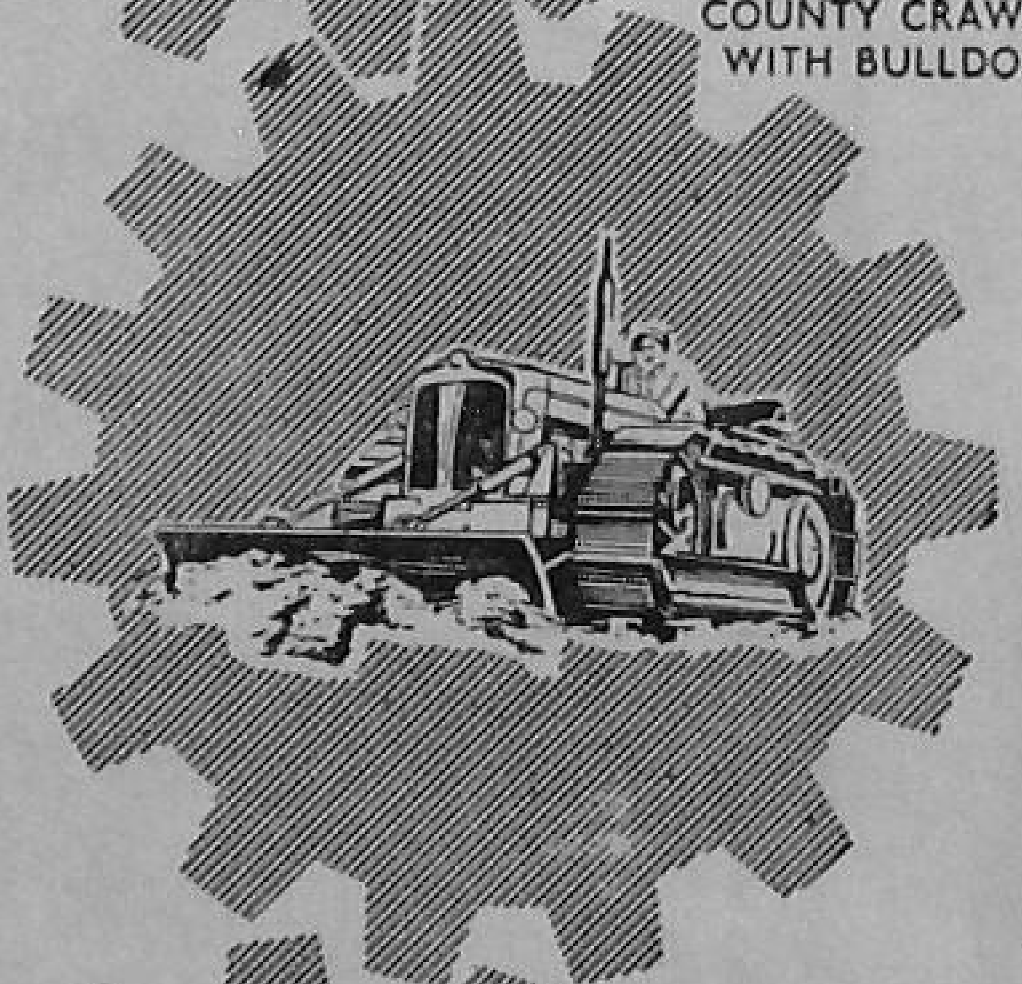

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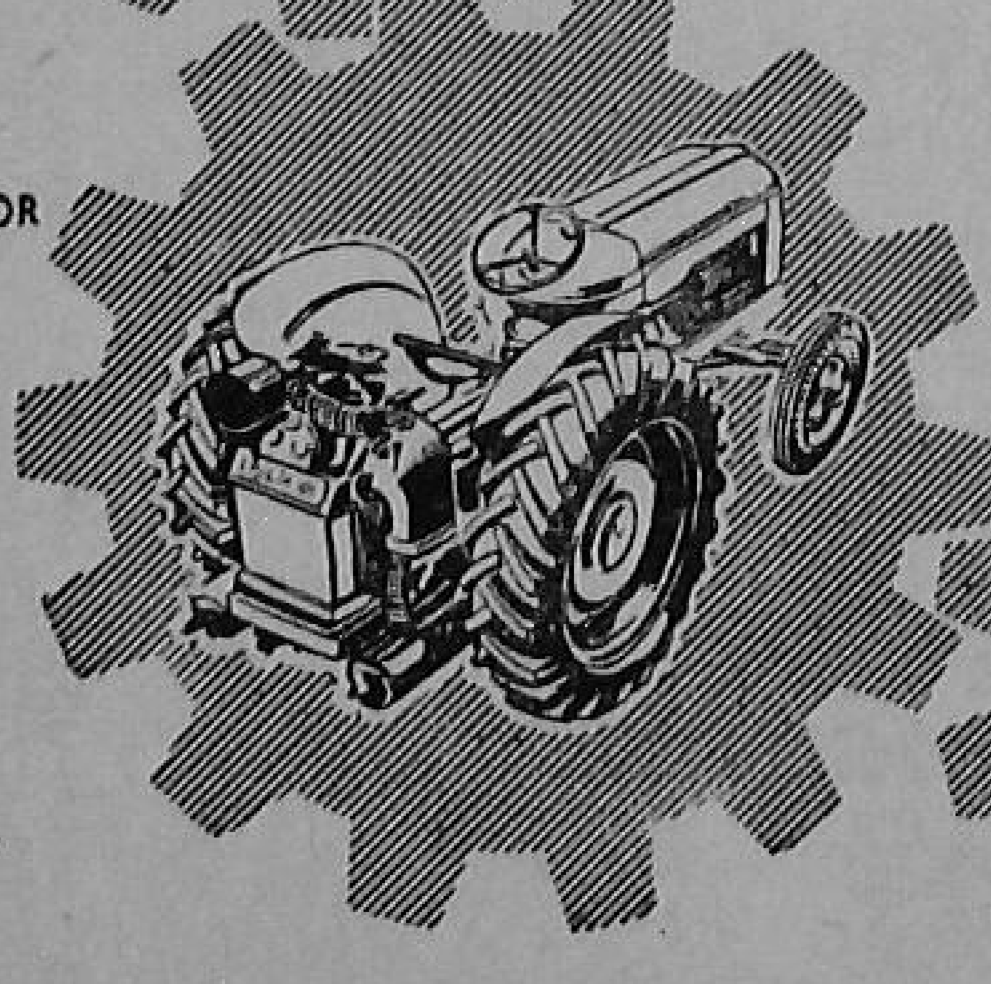

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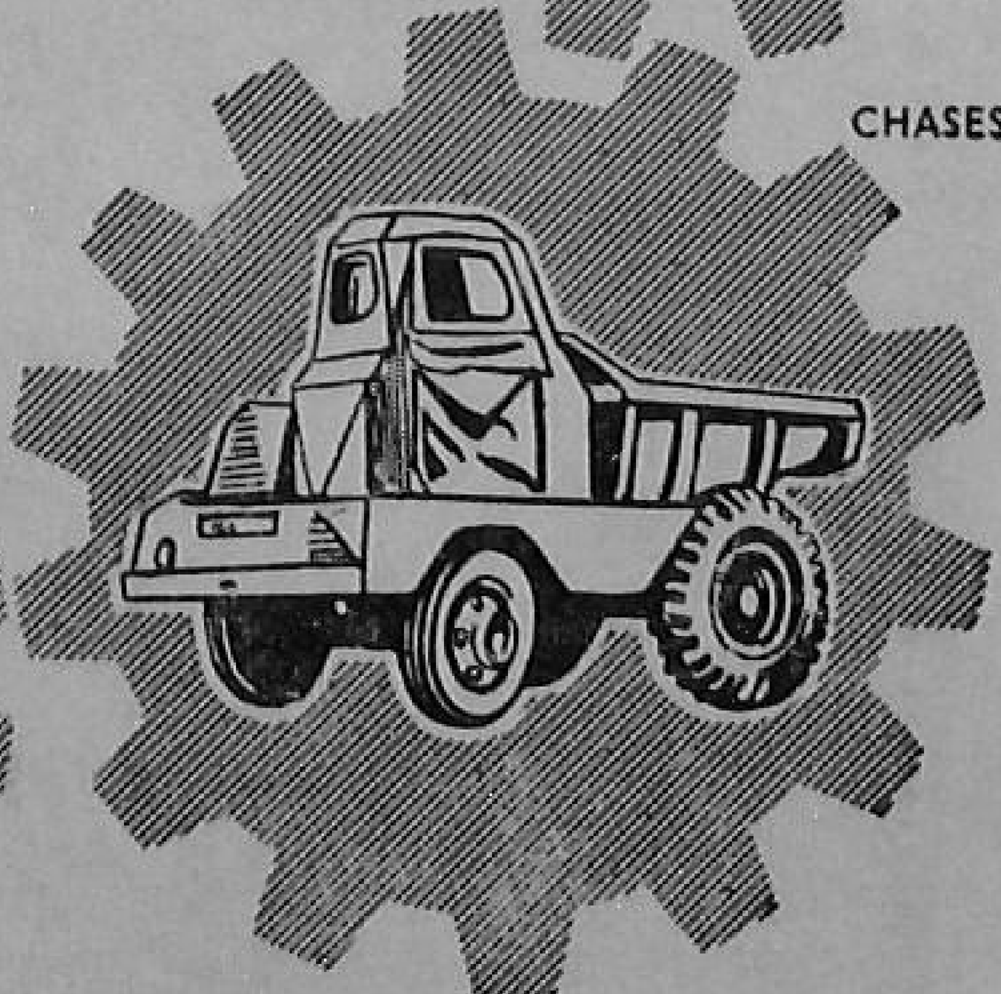

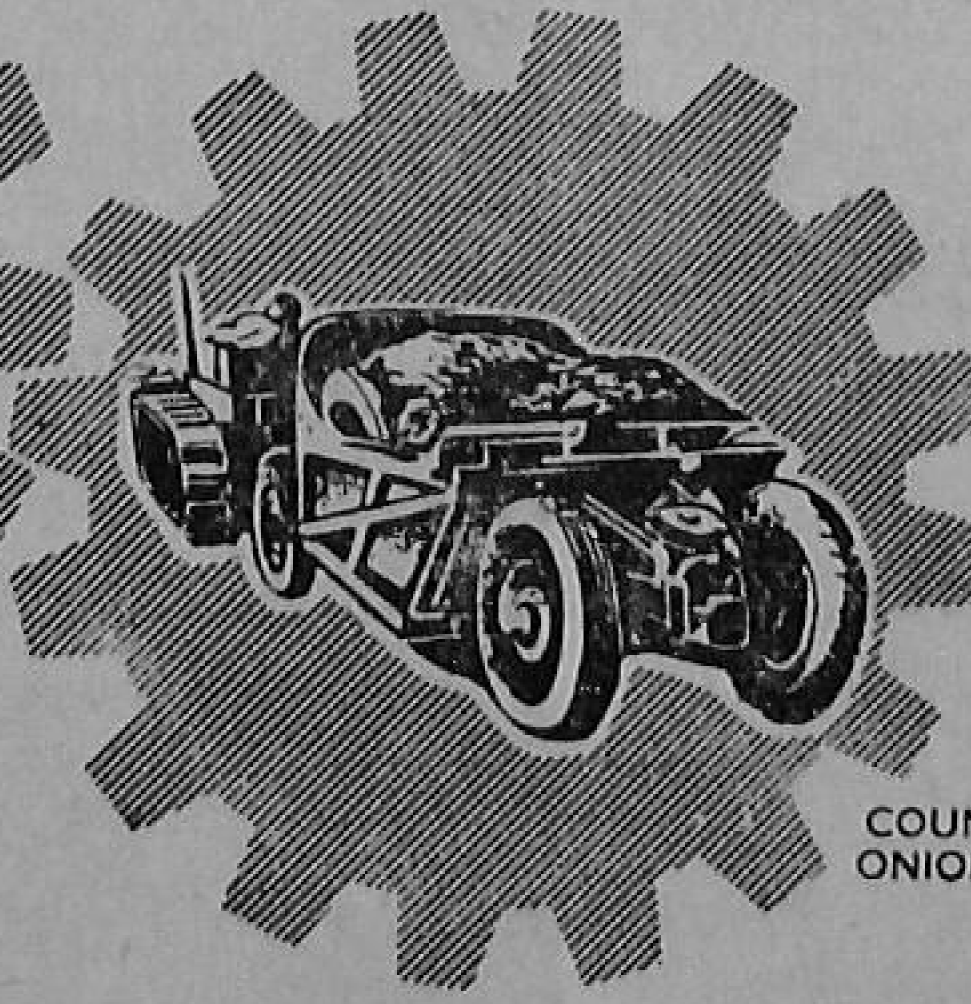

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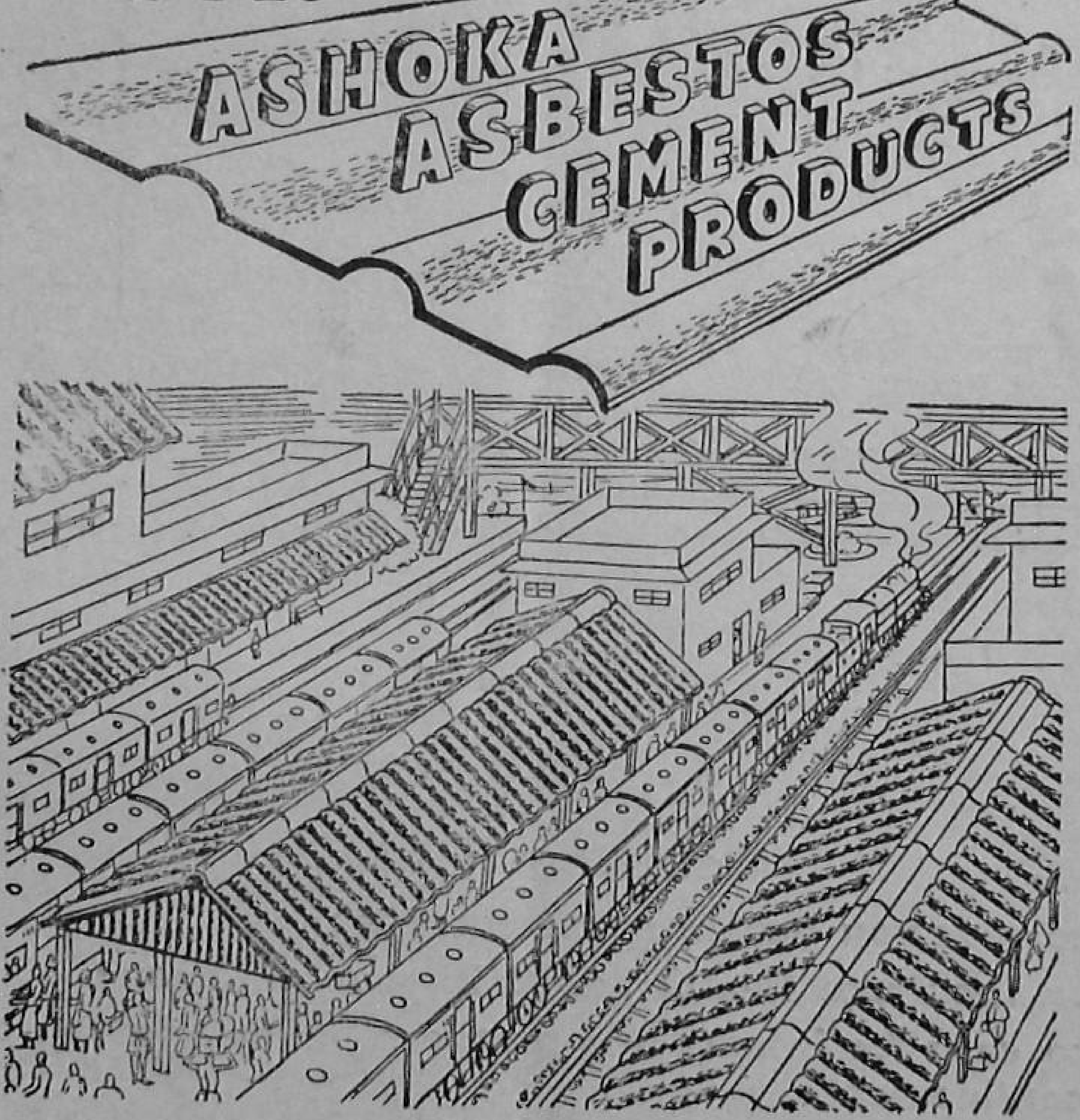

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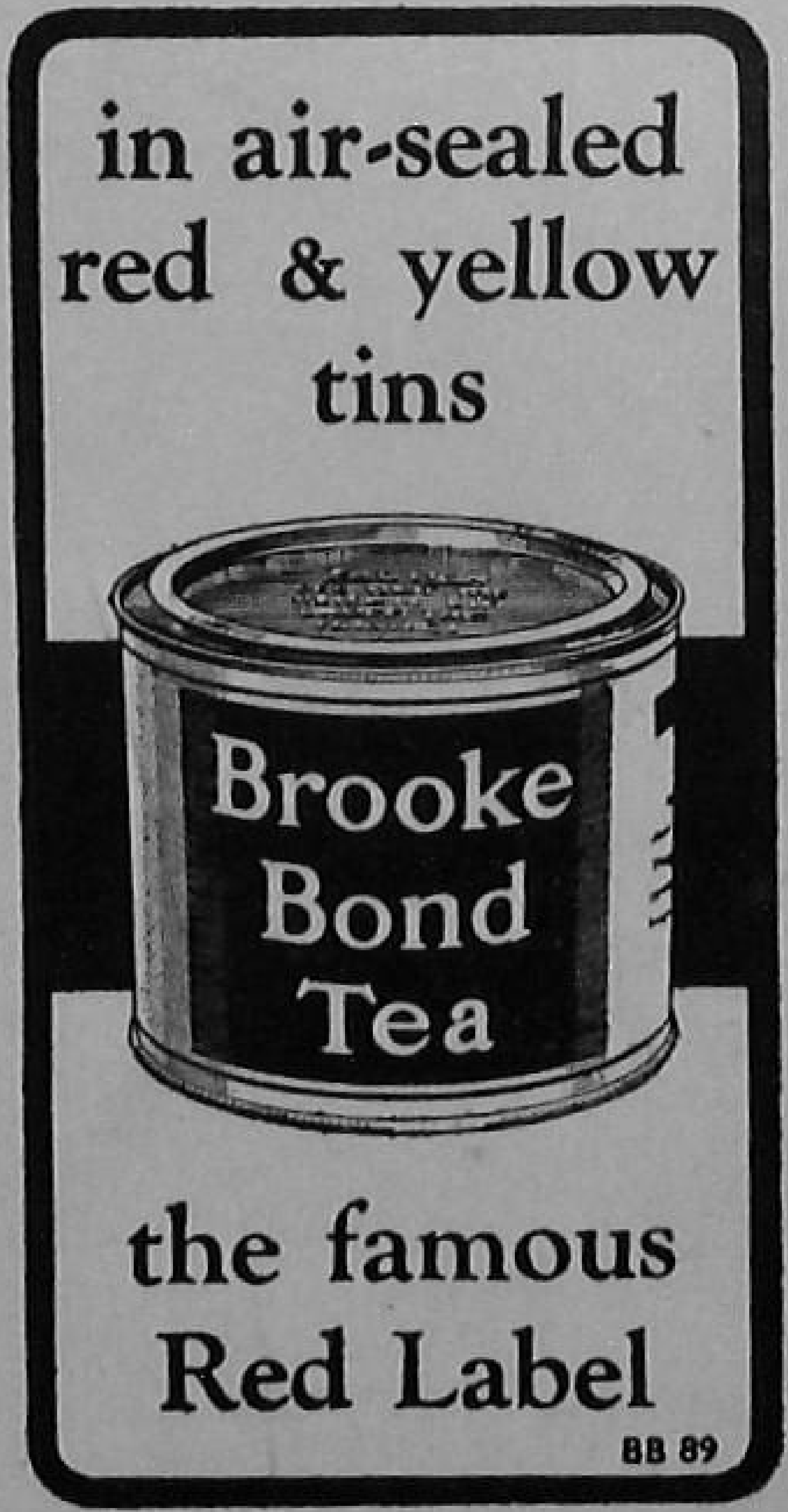

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TOWN PLANNING

The Second Five Year Plan recognises the importance of town planning for our cities. It says that each State should have a phased programme for the survey and preparation of Master Plans for all important towns. These should provide for integration of land use and zoning principles in each town or area with a view to obtaining the maximum amount of efficiency and economy in working and living conditions.

But, as a well known exponent of Town Planning, has pointed out, the mere gathering of statistical material is not planning, it is only the first step on which planning must be based. Oftentimes the town-planner has produced elaborate street maps, zoning regulations, pamphlets, pretty renderings of this and that, and such like. Once all this has been put on paper, properly and nicely, everyone seems to be satisfied, and that's the end of that story.

In the fifth Autumn planning Seminar organised by the Institute of Town Planners, India in Chandigarh last October, the presidential address has given expression to the awareness of this danger of mistaking preparation for town planning with the town planning itself. Professor V. N. Prasad said that in the Second Plan no more than casual attention has been given to town planning work, and, for all practical purposes, this work had been left to the meagre resources, financial as well as technical, of Improvement Trusts and Municipalities.

A majority of the States do not have even the prerequisites for town planning. Only in four States has town and country planning legislation been enacted. It has, however, been recommended, in the Second Plan, that such legislation should be enacted in all States and the necessary machinery for its implementation should be set up. Provision has also been made in the Plan for facilities for training of town planners and architects. The latter would no doubt give a fillip to town planning.

Town planning obviously must remain the responsibility of Municipalities and Improvement Trusts, but they need help and encouragement in this task. So far as planning from the scratch is concerned, Chandigarh has given to India a kind of city planning movement. The Union Government have also provided for adequate planning of the townships in which their new steel mills are to come up in the Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. These would serve as good examples. But so far as re-building of the towns is concerned, no such movement yet seems in sight. It is also the most difficult task — in planning as well as execution. Informed public opinion is essential for its success.

Services and Charitable Funds—Governors As Head of State—Decentralisation—Statistics—Panchayat Justice

Government Servants and Charitable Funds

Government Servants' Conduct Rules invarably provide that a Government Servant will not accept, ask for or participate in the raising of subscriptions or other pecuniary assistance for any charitable institution or cause, except with the prior sanction of the Government. It is a salutary rule. While the Government rightly reserve to themselves the right of according or not according such sanction, it is also desirable that such approval should not be accorded with frequency and indiscriminately, for otherwise it is bound to interfere with efficient and impartial administration for which Government Servants are primarily meant. With the increasing stress on social welfare as against merely on law and order, there are bound to be many causes deserving of Government Servants' support. The State's resources are also increasing, but if its commitments keep ahead of these resources, it would hardly be proper to make indiscriminate and undue use of Government Servants for raising funds for charitable causes.

In some of the States, we are afraid, the Government Servants are being used for raising funds for more causes than is good for the administration. About a dozen permanent causes, and several dozen *ad hoc* ones claim their attaintion each year. Then there are causes in which the individual Governors or Ministers are interested. For these too the Government Servants' good offices are utilised. Not infrequently this kind of fund collection assumes the form of an impost. Thus whoever buys a cinema ticket, wants to renew the license of his arms, or goes before a Magistrate, has to buy so many T. B. or Health Seals, Army Day or Navy Day Flags, and so on. The element of compulsion is unmistakably there.

Governments Servants, busy as they are with their official work, can hardly be expected to approach the task of raising fund for "charitable causes", setting aside their official authority, and relying on their private resources and personal goodwill alone.

The Administration in each State will do well to review this matter and practise self-restraint in the larger public interest. Too much fund collection work is bound to have an adverse effect on the administration in general in which they are primarily interested.

Governors as Head of State

Mr. Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, has claimed that Indians are more democratic than Britons because the former do not hesitate in making demonstrations with black flags against the head of the State, a thing unthinkable in Britain. The comparison it would seem, was not on all fours for Britain does not have so many Heads of States as India has and so many of whom are appointed by the Government of India. By head of the State, Mr. Sri Prakasa also meant the Governors of the States, who are appointed, and not only the President of the Republic, who is elected, for he illustrated his claim or accusation by recalling the numerous black-flag demonstrations he had faced on his tour of the State.

Mr. Sri Prakasa is known to be a wit and he naturally delighted his audience by having this dig on himself. But there is no doubt need for our re-thinking the attitude we adopt towards the office of the Head of the State, including the Governors. That vast majority of citizens would like certain sanctity to be attached to this office was obvious from the indignation caused when a venerable member

of the Cabinet unwittingly made certain light-hearted reference to the office of the President of India. There is no law which requires any special sanctity to be attached to the office of the President, yet the same has come to be attached within the short time of its existence. For this the holder of the office too has to make not a little contribution, apart from the fact that he is the chosen head of the people as a result of free and fair election. The Head of the State, must also try to conduct himself as the Head of the State should. If he happens to be appointed as Governors are this duty becomes specially necessary.

In several of the States recently the conduct of the Governor has been sought to be discussed in the Legislature, and even though the discussion was not allowed under constitutional provisions, the abortive attempts did not a little damage to the institution of the Governor, as an impartial head of the State, who should be above politics.

In several of the States the Governor also acts as Chancellor of Universities. In the discharge of this duty too, it is necessary that the Chancellor should try to act as the constitutional figure-head, rather than an active executive like the President in the United States. Where it is not done his actions are likely to be misunderstood, as happened recnetly in Uttar Pradesh over the sale of books to U. P. students published by an institution outside the State with which too the U. P. Governor happens to be conneected in his private capacity, necessitating explanations in the Press. The institution of Rajpramukh has been abolished after six years trial. Though the institution of Governor has been retained, it has still to build traditions around it.

Decentralisation: Divisional Officers

Bombay Government having become the largest State in the Union on November 1 have of necessity launched on a scheme of administrative decentralisation, whose results will be watched with interest by other States. The State has not only been divided into six Divisions with headquarters in important cities of the State, but each Division has been placed under a senior officer of the Indian Civil or Administrative Service, to whom many of the powers hitherto exercised by the Government in the Secretariat are being delegated. These Divisional Officers will be charged with supervision of and control over Revenue Offices, deal with transfers of Mamlatdars and Deputy Collectors within the region, exercise executive and administrative powers on the lines of powers delegated to former Commissioners of Divisions in the old Bombay State, carry out general inspection of offices of all departments in the region and of Local Bodies, co-ordinate and supervise the activities of all Regional Heads of Departments with particular reference to Planning and Development.

Despite the State's largeness, the headquarters of all the government departments and the entire Secretariat will be situated at one place, namely, in Bombay City, which is desirable. The claims of other big cities in the State have not been met by distributing departments all over the State as has been done in the Madhya Pradesh, and to some extent in Rajasthan. But, besides Bombay city, Rajkot, Aurangabad, Ahmedabad, Bombay, Poona and Nagpur will also house these Divisional Government Headquarters and Regional Headquarters of other Departments.

After the independence, there was a general tendency to treat the Divisional Commissioners as superflous, and in most States this post was abolished. In some States the number of Divisional Commissioners was reduced, and their powers and functions drastically curtailed, to make them really a superfluity. Now again it has been realised that between the State Secretariat and the District Administration, there must be another administrative unit, which would not merely act as an intermediary between the two and cause unnecessary delay, but which would discharge most of the functions of the Secretariat on the spot and thus make for despatch of the governmental business, and convenience to the people who have business with the Government.

The Divisional Officers in Bombay, the successors of what were once called Divisional Commissioners, are being clothed with ample powers to make for proper decentralisation of Government, as against the Uttar Pradash were though the institution of the Divisional Commissioner has recently been revived and revitalised, it is still in capable of relieving the Secretariat of any of its responsibilities.

Statistical Control

The Government of India's Health Ministry which also deals with the problems of Local Self-Government has at last succeeded in bringing out a compilation on local self-government administration in India on the basis of information supplied by the States themselves. It is no wonder that the statistics in this compilation should relate to the year 1953-54, (whereas one would have expected them to relate to the year 1955-56) when it is borne in mind that the States are very reluctant to give information. In her address to the second meeting of the Central Council of Local Self-Government, the Union Health Minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, gave two instances of this unwillingness to give information on the part of the States Governmental. Efficiency has to be stepped up if better performance is desired from the States.

Without proper statistics—recent ones, not obsolete—proper evaluation is not possible. Without adequate review mistakes cannot be rectified and better policies evolved. Public criticism, for lack of proper statistics, tends to be based on prejudices. Lack of adequate statistics has been hampering progress in many directions. Collection of statistics costs money and trouble but it is well worth it. The U. S. Congress in providing for a census of Government in 1957 has appropriated 1.75 million dollars for the purpose. Local bodies in India may not afford this expenditure. But what is needed here would not cost so much.

Village Republics

Though not a pioneer, the Uttar Pradesh has now the largest number of Village Panchayats, namely, 72,478, Twice elections have been held of the members and officers of these "Village Republics." The proceedings of the State's Legislative Council on Oct. 22 when members vied with each other in criticising the Village Panchayats make sad reading. The arrears of Panchayat dues, it was pointed out, amount to Rs. 2 crores. The Nyaya Panchayats came in for specially severe criticism. Members of the Congress Party alleged that Panchayats were responsible for injustices, corrupt practices, etc. It appeared as if there was no wrong which these Panchayats were not perpetrating, according to their critics in the Council.

The Minister for Local Self Government, who is also Minister of Justice, did well to point out that much of the criticism was premature as in many places the Nyaya Panchayats had not yet started functioning. Elections under the amended Act to Panchayats had been held only this year.

While it is obvious that the Panchayats cannot dispense such meticulous justice as one expects from trained judges, the loud criticism made in the Council would show that there is need for a more sympathetic as well as deeper understanding of what goes on in these Village Republics. Owing to lack of funds arrangements for adequate training of Secretaries of Panchayats has still to be made, and this is no small handicap. The criticsm was no doubt harsh. The hands the clock can not be put back. The Panchayats have come to stay. Their defects have to be found and remedied.

Capital's Water Supply

Contamination of piped water supply in India's capital has become a hardy annual. There was a complete but timely stoppage of supply on October 24 before the contaminated water could be pumped to the people, unlike last year when an epidemic of jaundice had ensued causing much loss of life.

The best advice, that can be sought, has been obtained by the Union Health Ministry to improve the capital's water supply. This year's breakdown was caused by the floods, over which no one has any control. The authorities, however, have shown alertness and awareness of the danger to the capital's health, and deserve praise for it instead of being condemned as has been done in some quarters.

An Indictment of Present Procedures

By **Paul H. Appleby,**

Consultant in Public Administration, The Ford Foundation

Granted prior agreement in principle on kind and dimension of programme to be undertaken and the amount of money to be made available for the purpose, specific decisions incident to effectuation of purpose in India are reviewed by too many persons in too many organs of the government on too detailed, too repetitive and too negative terms. **Perhaps nowhere else have so many systematic barriers been erected to prevent the accomplishment of that which it has been determined should be done.** What is achieved is pushed through to the point of action only by virtue of tireless persistence on the part of programme agency personnel who alone have positive functions.

> **This is the first part of Section 3 of Dr. Paul H. Appleby's paper. Sections 1 and 2 appeared in the previous two issues.**
>
> **—Editor.**

A particular project of substantial size is included in the Five Year Plan, in which allocations of the required foreign exchange, the required steel, and the required funds have been made. Yet the Ministry under whose jurisdiction the project is to be carried forward must get subsequent approval of the Finance Ministry and sometimes also of the Home Ministry, for the personnel initially required and the salaries to be paid in each instance. It must get approval from Commerce and Industry for steel. It must get approval for use of foreign exchange. It must get full concurrence from any other Ministry which has some small function which under some strained theory gives that Ministry a competitive interest in the project and the power to thwart it. These various approvals are not for the entire project originally approved by those primarily concerned, but for each implementing action necessary to that project. And the process of review is unbelievably petty and frustrating.

So many proposed transactions thus come up for review that they must usually of necessity in the Ministries and organs to which they are sent be referred downward to very subordinate staff who have no experience of or knowledge of the kind of project being dealt with. The basic instruction is understood by subordinate staff to be to find out whether the proposal is fully in accord with precedent. **The focus on precedent encourages subordinates in a chronically negative and timid attitude.**

It seems a strange thing that this basic concern for precedent has not been challenged by the present government. The primary function of political leadership—and notably of lerdership in a revolutionary stage—is to insist on a departure from precedent for the sake of the achievement of new values. Even in a non-revolutionary setting, concern for precedent as such has little value. It is a negative way of expressing concern for fair-dealing and for action which can be publicly defended. But the petty minds of subordinates who have never been trained to exercise imagination and judgment are not relied upon to understand "fair dealing" and "action which can be publicly defended." They are instructed—or feel themselves instructed—to adhere to precedent, which is quite another matter and this instruction dictates a literal performance, which is the poorest type of performance in all cases. It is a dictum in professional administrative circles that "the surest way to ruin your boss is to do exactly what he tells you to do"—that is, literally what he tells you to do, without intelligence, without discrimination,

without judgment, without imagination. Excessive concern for precedent is quite like an excessive concern for the literal. Sufficient conformity to precedent can be taken for granted, as inevitably occurring too consistently, too invariably. The way things have been done is known to everybody in the agencies involved; it is the easy way to go on doing things, but not always a good way to get things done.

The general result of the orientation of review to precedent is to encourage subordinates to search diligently for little novelties which may be challenged. Each challange occasions an inquiry back to the proposing Ministry. The succession of challenges has the effect of a disapproval until the proposing Ministry has so persisted in its representations as finally to win out.

It is the belief of this writer that **far too may proposed actions are reviewed, and that the review is far too often in the useless and frustrating fashion** just indicated. If a project is a part of the plan and if the project is provided for in the budget, the Finance Ministry should hold subject to review not more than from 10 to 25 percent. of the original appropriation. In the case of an agency that has demonstrated its ability to spend in accord with the Plan, the 10 percent. review maximum would be adequate for a desirable marginal control. It the agency concerned has not been able to spend up to its programme by a substantial margin, some such review margin as 25 per cent. would seem to be in order. But the great body of every scheme should be enabled to move forward without these repetitive reviews. If some such method is not in fact sound, then it can only, be that the annual budget was poorly prepared.

Review Functions Are High-level

It cannot be over-emphasized that all review functions are high-level functions and must be performed in high-level terms. Review should be limited in volume to what a relatively small staff of high-calibre qualifications can handle. Reviewing agencies should have a higher proportion of high-ranking, high-paid officials than do operating agencies. **The most subordinate person presuming to question the wisdom of a proposal endorsed by a minister is, in effect, acting as that minister's superior.** It is true that the minister may, by repeated demands, get attention at a higher-level in the reviewing agency. In the meantime the very subordinate person has been able to say to the minister, "You may win out in time, but I'm telling you can't get approval on this proposal now." **To a small degree such power to challenge a superior is salutary and necessary. But here it is so built into the system, and the system of review is made so thoroughly applicable, as to shift the entire government into a dangerously negative posture.** It is a procedure dedicated to smallness, cheapness and slowness, not serving well the great designs of the nation.

The only justification for a review of any action proposal is that it requires consideration in terms which those who have handled it previously are in no position to give it. If the Ministry of Finance previously has decided broadly how much of the government's limited funds can be made available for a particular programme it should have little further special role in the specific allotments of funds to various parts of that programme. Such allotments are related to the question of how to achieved the programmatic object within the financial limitations already established. For this, the programmatic agency has superior judgment. Only when the programmatic agency is given wide discretion in the deployment of these already predetermined funds, can it be held accountable for results. Financial control will be ample in the basic determination of the amount to be available and by holding the agency more rigidly than now to that first determination. It the agency decides that something not planned for in its original budget is more important to the programme than something that was provided for, let it shift the funds earlier provided to the new activity. Much more will be saved by forcing agencies to re-examine their own priorities in this way than is saved under the present method. Program-

matic responsibility will be heightened and action will be expedited.

The existing procedure is not simply a habit of the bureaucracy, it is not a product of the I. C. S., or of the Finance Ministry, or of the Civil Service generally. Responsibility for this procedure here is shared by everybody and is constantly strengthened by almost everybody—and not least by the parliament. The remainder of this section will attempt to deal with the reviewing agencies in various terms of detail, in some instances descriptively, in some merely dogmatically, since this document must be brief.

Ministry of Finance

Since the writer of this paper has often described the process of financial review in which he has participated in his own country in the way now to be used as descriptive of the Indian process, the description should not be regarded as invidious. Since the Ministry of Finance is the one reviewing agency most universally involved in transactions of the Indian government it is being treated at length. It is in some part illustrative of all other reviewing agencies here.

The Minister of Finance here could assert, as the writer has asserted in respect of his own similar functions, that he does not and his ministry does not either "approve" or "disapprove" any proposal. He could assert that he and his ministry only "advise." This is true, in a sense.

Reviewing Processes

Consequently, it can be asserted that when an assistant in the Finance Ministry writes a note raising some question of precedent or cost concerning a matter that has been sent to the Ministry, and an under-secretary or a deputy secretary in Finance used this question as the basis for negative "advice," the proposal has not been "disapproved." This is true in the sense that the ministry which originally made the proposal can furnish further facts and arguments and perhaps persuade the assistant who wrote the note on which objection was based, thereby persuading the assistant's superiors. Or the proposing ministry can appeal to a higher level. If the advice continues to be negative when the appeal is made personally to the Minister of Finance, it still may be felt to be true that the Minister of Finance is not "disapproving" the action; he is only advising against it and withholding his positive approval of it, for appeal then can still be taken to Cabinet. There is a certain important significance in this interpretation of the reviewing process, because it describes the workings of all hierarchies. Decisions at every point in every hierarchy are tentative, in the sense that they can all be modified or reversed at a higher level since even Cabinet's decisions can be modified by Parliament, and Parliament's decisions modified by popular clamour. Yet this valid view is not the whole view, and when made to dismiss the whole procedural problem is in reality untrue.

Decision To Delay

Time and energy of all concerned are limited. Only a portion of the matters proposed by programme agencies can in fact be appealed usefully at even one level higher in the reviewing hierarchy. A still smaller portion can be reviewed at two levels higher, a very much smaller portion at three levels higher, an extremely small number can be taken personally to the Minister of Finance, and an insignificantly small number can be brought before the Cabinet. **In reality, then, the question raised by an assistant has the effect of being in a good many instances a "disapproval" by the Ministry of Finance.** Similarly, the withholding of approval at each successively higher level is actual and effective disapproval in most instances, and the failure of the Minister of Finance to approve is actually a disapproval in all instances when the Ministry making the original proposal is unwilling to burden Cabinet with the dispute. **Even when approval is secured at any of the intermediate levels, the earlier and lower-level questions and withholdings of approval were decisions to delay action.** Very often delay is highly wasteful, retards achievement of Plan objectives, and is par-

ticularly tragic when it is based only on triviality or downright ignorance.

Expenditures Control

In some part the present system of expenditures control conceals a serious inadequacy in the development of the government's budget. **The expenditures control is used to far too great an extent as a substitute for good budgeting; it is a way of making the actual budget after the putative budget has been presented to and approved by the Parliament.** The budget, therefore, is being made all year long for the year rapidly marching toward its close. This is a negation of programming and planning.

In Defence of Finance Ministry

Under the present system "schemes" or projects of various kinds are presented to the Finance Ministry throughout the year some for early clearance and apportionment of funds, some as a hostage to later budgets. These schemes are usually not much more than policy ideas; they are almost never actual administrative and expenditure projections ready for serious consideration as such. Their shortcomings are the primary occasion for most of the delay and confusion now rather erroneously charged against the Finance Ministry. As time for making the budget is approached, all of these schemes on file are examined, some are selected, and these, in addition to normal "establishment" expenditures, become the budget of a particular ministry. All schemes remaining in the file have been approved in principle. Those not actually included in the budget remain in the file and may be activated in any subsequent year or at any time within a year. Years after they were first submitted and approved in principle, some one or another may suddenly be activated, although by that time the original rough estimates of cost, and even important elements in the scheme, may be wholly outmoded.

This whole system requires the agencies to submit many schemes they have little hope of being able to put into action. It establishes a pattern of poor cost estimates and poor budgeting which in turn are justifications for detailed financial intervention.

Loose and Extravagant Estimates

There is anothet element in the picture that deserves much attention. **The ministries, knowing that Finance will reduce their requests, are given to loose and extravagant estimates of cost.** They are given positive encouragement to do this. When a particular ministry submits a tightly estimated project, Finance has complained, "you put us in a difficult position by making it so hard for us to reduce your figures." **Actually a tight and sound estimate should be encouraged in every way possible, and endorsed by quick and unmodified approval.** Conversely, the loose estimate should be overpenalized. The primary responsibility of Finance should be to encourage and to stimulate good budgeting in the agencies, and its whole review should be based on a sampling analysis which constitutes a search for poor budgeting. If the sample reveals good budgeting, the request should be given maximum approval.

Reforms Begun Two Years Ago

It must be said, however, that reforms begun two years ago by the Finance Ministry seem not yet to be realized by the programme ministries, whose current complaints are either more historical than they know or reflect the inability of the ministries to convert their proposals into financial projects warranting prompt handling by Finance. Other extensive and whole-hearted reforms are now under way in Finance. **Many of these point directly at the heart of the matter by attempting to begin the development of more financial competence in the programme ministries.** This can be done best on a selective basis, and it will require time. However, initiative properly belongs to Finance, and it is being exercised there. The writer is convinced that, while further steps by Finance will be needed later, as of now **the chief concern should be to develop intraministerial financial competence in the programme agencies, to transfer the accounting function to the ministries under the general direction of Finance,**

to limit the role of the Comptroller and Auditor General, to improve personnel recruitment and arrangement, and to elevate the approach of Parliamentarians to a more general and positive appraisal of administration. Strong and united Cabinet support can carry reform to satisfactory advances.

Ministry of Home Affairs : Public Service Commission

Where personnel arrangements not in strict conformity with usual practice are involved, a matter referred to Finance is by Finance referred automatically to Home Affairs, and Home Affairs is in many matters dependent upon the Public Service Commission. Review in Home Affairs is often done at too low levels. Curiously, the problem is reversed at the Public Service Commission, where almost everything requires Commission approval. Acting under the same general forces of public and Parliamentary opinion as is Finance, the Home Affairs Ministry often is similarly negative, and at the same time confined by some special rules, laws and constitutional provisions, as well as by administrative conventions.

An extraordinary and damaging concern for the "rights" of members of the Secretariat Service and other Services to advance in rank enforces early retirement and puts high barriers in the way of re-employment of a competent retired civil servant. It also is an important factor in limiting the size of cadres to be recruited.

Slow Personnel Procedure

The absurd limitation of selection of a new appointee to a single individual certified by the Public Service Commission hampers proper selection by ignoring differences in individuals important to different kinds of positions, and reduces the probability that a needed person can be immediately engaged. Instead of keeping large registers of eligibles from whom the appoining agency can select with its special needs in mind, action often must await the whole laborious and time-consuming process of calling for a new and special examination or advertisement and selection. **The Public Service Commission's present procedure is one that works well for the recruitment of a handful of persons.** It is not designed for the selection of a large number of eligibles and the maintenance of registers that would make appointment expeditious. One Minister has suggested that the Five Year Plan should be made a Seven Year Plan so as to allow for this slow personnel procedure. This is a substantial understatement of the inadequacy of the system as it has been operating. The proper remedy, of course, is not to extend the duration of the Plan; it is to reform procedures.

There are more specific difficulties in the personnel field. Admittedly, there must be some reasonable degree of consistency in pay standards, and therefore in grades of positions to be filled; there must be some consistency in workloads so that one agency does not have many officials to handle a relatively small programme while another with a programme of similar size has fewer officials; there must be some systematic method for certifying eligibility to appointment. Concerns such as these are at the very heart of the whole process of reference. But the concerns should not be excessive. **Present practice imposed on Home Affairs and Public Service Commission have made for pettiness, unimaginativeness, inflexibility and a tempo in which a calendar has more relevance than a clock.**

Absurd Requirements

There are too definite and inadequate notions about entrance salaries so that many qualified persons are not attracted to the public service. There are absurd requirements for fixed periods of service in one grade before promotion to another higher grade will be considered. **Once the required period has been spent in a grade, however, there is too much inclination to regard promotion as a right.** To have numerous competitors for promotion is a highly desirable condition; here it is regarded as rather undesirable. **There are too many special services, and too definite demarcations of classes within services so that altogether there is**

too little flexibility and mobility. At the other extreme there are instances in which the movement of key personnel from one assignment to another has been made too rapidly and in too many posts, involving a single agency, so that the agency is deprived of administrative leadership having knowledge of its business. There is too little willingness to recruit in intermediate and higher levels, too much reliance on promotion from below but with promotion limited too strictly to the single "class" to which a person was first appointed. There is too much unwillingness to recruit in sufficient numbers, even for present needs, and too little realization that future needs of far more serious dimensions cannot be met in the future except by additional recruitment and training now.

Secretariat and Technical Services

The relationship between persons in the secretariat and persons in the "technical services" is too rigidly remote. It is true that one of the great virtues of the Indian system is the emphasis placed on "generalist" qualifications for officials in top positions. But there is no single source of generalist personnel, no single formula for developing them. Some persons with technical backgrounds become competent generalists. Others are capable of transformation into generalists by a diversification of their experience, and some persons put through the experience conventional for preparation of generalists never develop any real capacity for high-level performance. Some persons in business or in the universities can qualify rather quickly for high-level generalist posts. Conversely, top-level governmental generalists often can be admirable heads of technical or industrial organizations. **The persons capable of serving well at high levels are rare birds; they must be sought wherever they may be found, and developed by various means.**

Conception of Administration

The very word "administration" here is too narrowly conceived as relating to financial administration and personnel administration coupled somewhat vaguely with other functions of the secretariat. **Administration is basically the conduct of programmes important to citizens and to the nation;** fiscal administration and personnel administration are merely aspects of the general management of a variety of programmes. Administration here seriously needs a much more marked orientation to the conduct of programmes, because **"administration" here is largely negative.** The system of personnel arrangement and personnel management contributes importantly to this bad condition.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is pitched notably toward self-criticism and reform, and indeed is leading in reform stimulation. The same is now true of the Public Service Commission. Yet by themselves these two cannot far advance the movement.

There is still need for a shift away from a system of search for single individuals to a system of certification of eligibility which produces a maximum number of persons for the many kinds of positions needing to be filled in lists determined well in advance of needs from which appointments may be made with much more discretion and expedition than now is possible. **A different, larger more agressively promotional and imaginative system can produce many more eligibles than now are found.** I am informed that there are in business and industry, for example, a considerable number of able persons whose advancement in their present careers is blocked by nepotism of owning families or by foreign ownership. There are able young Indians who have been trained abroad who feel unable to come home because salaries offered by the government are not enough to pay for their professional books and journals necessary to their continued growth whereas pay available to them abroad is from five to ten times as high. There are persons available on university faculties. There are able Indian women working for foreign embassies here, and in similar jobs, for whom — in spite of admirable constitutional provisions — equivalent positions in the Indian government are not really open. There are many other persons here who with special training of various kinds could serve satisfactorily.

Small Economies

Implicit in much that already has been said is the clear indication that attitudes toward pay for public service as an aspect of the eternal search for small savings is a serious deterrent to the dynamic and truly efficient government which is crucially imperative here. **The time consumed in the present laborious methods of doing business entails a waste vastly greater than the savings of the present emphasis on small "economies."** Frugality and carefulness are always desirable, of course, but concern for them can be carried to a point where there is a vaster wastefulness than is commonly realized.

Shortage of Personnel

In spite of everything that can be done, however, there is here, and will long be, a great shortage of personnel sufficiently competent to fill the hundreds and hundreds of key positions necessary to effective government pursuing the goal of a Welfare State speedily attained. This scarcity means that the greatest costs of government are the true per hour costs of key personnel—not their salary costs.

When key officials are so overburdened that they delay hundreds or thousands of other persons in getting on with action necessary to the achievement of agreed-upon goals, the waste in the uneconomic use of their time is almost incalculable. All of the amenities which save their time should be provided in the interest of true economy. All of the provision that permits them time to read and reflect, all of the administrative arrangement that permits them to expend maximum energies on the exercise of judgement really essential to their responsibilities, and salary scales that will permit the filling in of hierarchies so that delegation may be maximized—these things are economical in the most important meaning of the word.

Yet the prejudices, pressures and practices governing these matters are in the exactly opposite direction. Morale of public personnel is deteriorating before repeated Parliamentary proposals to reduce pay. In this situation the inclination to abstract dedication and the sense of engagement in a vital mission wear thin. Pay is by no means the only factor in this, but it is an important factor. With the theoretically top pay of Rs. 4,000 a month now having buying power of only Rs. 726 in 1939 terms, the scale-down has been much more drastic than most people realize. Future mass income in India is thoroughly dependent upon the success of the Indian government. In their own interest, the people must be willing to pay what adequate and successful government will cost.

(To Be Continued)

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BOMBAY-I.

Administration In New State Of Bombay

By Shri M. D. Bhansali,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay

The new State of Bombay which came into existence on November 1, 1956, is much bigger in size than the previous Bombay State. It is the largest State in the Indian Union from the point of view of area and the second largest from the point of view of population. As against the area of 1,11,434 sq. miles and the population of 3.59 crores of the existing State, the new State has an area of 1,90,690 sq. miles and a population of about 4.83 crores. There is thus an increase of about 70 per cent in area and 34 per cent in population. Instead of 28 districts in which the State of Bombay was previously divided, there are now 43 districts, including Greater Bombay, in the new State.

The integration of the administrative set up of the incoming territories with those of the remaining territories of Bombay State is proposed to be done in the following three stages (i) Interim arrangements; (ii) Introduction of a uniform system of administrative set-up throughout the new State ; and (iii) Extension of various activities which may exist in some parts and not in others, throughout the integrated State.

The immediate problem relates to interim arrangements. So far as offices at the district level and below are concerned, all such offices will continue in the same way as they existed prior to integration. Regarding the divisional level, it has been decided that as far as practicable, the regional offices for different departments may be on a uniform pattern, both in regard to their location and number. Conditions may, however, differ, in the different areas and for different departments. In the case of Kutch, the offices at the State level would practically go over into district offices, while the offices of Heads of Departments in Saurashtra may have to be reorganised so as to function as divisional or regional offices of the combined Saurashtra-Kutch Region. In Marathwada and Vidharbha, all Departments have not got regional offices. In view of this, it has become necessary to review and reconstitute the set-up of the divisional offices in all these areas. At the headquarters level, the previous Heads of Departments in Bombay State are being given extended jurisdiction over the integrated areas for which they have to be appointed with appropriate designations under the various enactments prevailing in other areas.

Uniform Administrative Set-Up

After the interim arrangements have been worked out and some experience of the actual volume of work has been gained, it will be necessary to evolve a more uniform administrative set-up for the new State. At the same time, it would be desirable to work out a proper set-up of functions at present combined with some officers in one region and discharged by separate officers in other regions. This second stage of integration of administrative set-up would have to be followed by the third phase extending to all areas the activities on the lines previously existing in Bombay where similar activities do not exist or *vice versa.*

In view of the large size of the new State and the different types of problems and conditions obtaining in the various regions of the State, it has been considered essential for the purpose of smooth and effective administration to decentralize the powers and functions to a considerable extent. From the point of view of the public, too, this is necessary, as otherwise they would have to come to the headquarters of the State for minor and day-to-day matters. The new State has, therefore, been divided into the following six basic divisional charges with headquarters at Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Bombay, Poona, Aurangabad and Nagpur.

The Rajkot Division will comprise five districts of Saurashtra : Halar, Madhya

Saurashtra, Zalawad, Gohilwad and Sorath and Amreli and Kutch districts.

The Ahmedabad Division will have eight districts of Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Mehsana, Ahemedabad, Kaira, Panchmahals, Baroda and Broach.

The Bombay Division will comprise eight districts: Bombay (including Bombay Suburban District), Surat, Thana, Kolaba, Ratnagiri, Nasik, West Khandesh and Dangs.

The Poona Division will comprise six districts: South Satara, North Satara, Kolhapur, Poona, Sholapur and Ahmednagar.

The Aurangabad Division will comprise six districts: Aurangabad, Parbhani, Nanded, Bhir, Osmanabad and East Khandesh.

The Nagpur Division will comprise eight districts: Akola, Amraoti, Yeotmal, Wardha, Nagpur, Bhandara, Buldhana and Chanda.

It will be seen that the Divisions have been formed with due regard to physical contiguity and compactness, similarity of problems and the need for preserving the importance of places like Nagpur, Rajkot and Aurangabad.

Division To Be Under Senior Officers

The Divisions have been placed under Senior Officers of the Indian Civil Administrative Services to whom many of the powers hitherto exercised by Government are being delegated. They are being charged with the following functions: (a) Supervision of and control over the working of Revenue Offices throughout the region; (b) Transfer of Mamlatdars and Deputy Collectors within the region, inter-regional transfers of such personnel being made by Government; (c) Exercise of executive and administrative powers on the lines of powers delegated to former Commissioners in Bombay State and other States and Boards of Revenue in adjoining States; (d) General inspection of Offices of all Departments within the region; (e) Inspection of Local Bodies; (f) Co-ordination and Supervision of the activities of all Regional Heads of Departments with particular reference to Planning and Development and (g) Integration of the administrative set-up in the outside areas included in the new State of Bombay.

Adequate and experienced staff is being given to the Divisional Offices to enable them to discharge their functions satisfactorily.

As far as possible, Regional charges under other Departments, i.e., Home, Education, Industries, Co-operation, Agriculture and Forests, Public Works and Local Self-Government and Public Health, would be made to coincide with and have their headquarters at the same places as the Divisional charges.

In order to assist the Divisional Officer in the performance of his development functions, it is proposed to appoint an Assistant Development Commissioner in each Division. A Development Council consisting of officials and non-officials is also being set up in each Division to advise the Divisional Officer in matters relating to Planning and Development.

Decentralization of Powers

With the formation of Divisions and Regional Offices for various Departments, the pressure of work at the Secretariat level and with the Heads of Departments is expected to be kept down. Steps are being taken to work out measures for decentralisation of functions and delegation of authority to local and regional officers. Even so, there will be an appreciable increase in the volume of work with the Heads of Departments and the Secretariat Departments. Additional Officers and staff from the other constituent areas are, therefore, being brought in at different levels to strengthen these Departments. Opportunity has also been taken to make certain changes in the functions of Secretariat Departments. The present Rehabilitation, Housing and Backward Class Department will now be a full-fledged Department in charge of a Secretary and the work relating to Labour would be transferred to it from the existing Development Department. This Department will also deal with Backward Class welfare

and all residuary activities relating to Social Welfare; its name will, therefore, be changed to Labour and Social Welfare Department. A full-time Development Commissioner of the status of a Secretary to Government is being appointed to take charge of the Planning and Development Department, which has hitherto been in direct charge of the Chief Secretary. The work relating to control and development of electricity and electrical undertakings would be transferred from the Public Works Department to Development Department, which will now be designated as Industries and Co-operation Department.

It has been decided to set up benches of the Bombay Revenue Tribunal at Nagpur, Aurangabad and Rajkot to exercise the judicial functions of the Boards of Revenue of Madhya Pradesh and Hyderabad and of Saurashtra and Kutch Revenue Tribunals. It has also been proposed to establish two Benches of the High Court one at Nagpur and the other at Rajkot.

It is necessary to deal specifically with the questions of allocations of personnel and absorption of staff. The Officers and staff of Saurashtra and Kutch and proportionate number of Officers and staff of Hyderabad and Madhya Pradesh State have been allocated to and have to be integrated in the set-up in the new Bombay State. In view of the increase in the size of the State and the posible increase in workload it has been estimated that the size of Secretariat Departments and the Offices of Heads of Departments would have to be increased by 25 per cent. In addition to this 25 per cent increase, there, are vacancies caused by the allocation of the Bombay personnel to Mysore State, which is roughly about 14 per cent of the existing strength of the Secretariat and other offices having State-wide jurisdiction. Thus, in the case of most Departments, about 40 per cent of the existing number of posts will be available for absorption of personnel from other constituent units. In other to minimise dislocation and hardship, effort will be made to absorb the staff from the Secretariat and headquarters offices of Hyderabad and Madhya Pradesh in the Divisional and other Regional Offices to the extent possible.

It is necessary to work out the details of integration of the personnel from the constituent units. The general question pertaining to equation of posts, fixation of pay and the principles of fixation of seniority is also being considered.

An Integration Committee consisting of Senior Officers drawn from amongst the personnel from the different constituent units allocated to the new State has been set up to determine the criteria for the detailed application of the principles laid down by the Government of India, to prepare common seniority lists and to work out the equation of the posts.

It will also be necessary to evolve uniform pay-scales and allowances for the personnel serving in the new State of Bombay. Its order to minimise hardship to persons who might be seriously inconvenienced as a result of transfer to new areas, premature retirement concessions for Class III and IV personnel are under consideration. Such personnel may be given a credit of additional service to the extent of 20 per cent of pensionable service put in by them for the purpose of determining the pension or gratuity due to them. Certain other concessions are also under consideration of Government.

Apart from questions affecting administrative departments, there will be problems relating to the various statutory Boards and Corporations functioning in different areas. The Financial Corporations of Bombay and Saurashtra are being amalgamated and a new common Board of Directors constituted to serve the entire area of the new State. The other statutory bodies including the State Road Transport Corporations and the State Electricity Boards will continue to function in respect of areas served by them prior to reorganisation subject to such directions as cay be given by the Central Government. The Karnatak districts which will form part of Mysore State, will, however, be excluded from the scope of the State Road Transport Corporation, Bombay.

Administrative Reorganisation In Rajasthan

Acting on the report of the Administrative Enquiry Committee, the Rajasthan Government has taken far-reaching decisions regarding the expansion and improvement of the administrative machinery at all levels for the successful implementation of the second Five-Year Plan. The decisions affect the entire administrative machinery, right from the patwari to the Secretariat in the State capital, and envisage an overall increase of 10 per cent. in the staff at an expenditure of about Rs. 50 lakhs, spread over the next five years.

The overall objective is to create primary conditions which will evoke devotion to duty, public spirit, integrity and competence in persons who are engaged in public administration. The success or failure of the second Plan, it is realized, will depend very much on the creation of such a spirit among the officials.

When the entire State is covered by Extension Service Blocks by 1961, it will cast a heavy burden on Collectors. The Collectors, however, would continue as district development officers and an Additional Collector would be provided in the districts of Pali, Bharatpur, Bilwara, Nagaur and Sikar and a second Additional Collector at Jaipur.

The 25 districts of Rajasthan have already been classified in the following categories: (1) Special class—Jaipur district; (2) "A" Class—Alwar, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Ganganagar, Jodhpur, Kota, Sawai Madhopur and Udaipur; (3) "B" Class—Bikaner, Barmer, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Jalore, Nagaur, Pali, Sikar and Tonk; (4) "C" Class—Banswara, Bundi, Dungarpur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Chittor and Sirohi.

Ministerial Staff

A committee appointed by the Government last year had recommended the revised strength of Ministerial staff for all the districts. The special district of Jaipur is to have 50, "A" class districts 28, "B" class districts 20, and "C" class districts 17 members of the Ministerial staff. These strengths are considered quite adequate, except that the post of an arms clerk is proposed to be created in every district.

The Collectors will now be called upon to make a senior clerk responsible for the collection of information in respect of the requirements of forms and place timely indents for the same with the Directorate of Printing and Stationery so that the forms are made available to all the sections before the current stocks are exhausted. Posts of record clerks will be created in six "C" districts, except Jaiselmer, and development clerks in all the "A" and "B" districts.

Divisional Commissioners

There will be no change in the set up of Commissionerships in five divisions of the State. A permanent committee, that is being set up to review periodically the strength of all offices, is expected to look into the question of reducing the strength of the staff of the Commissioners' offices. This committee will not only suggest economy in expenditure, but would also, in the interests of efficiency, recommend whether any additional staff is necessary. The committee will also suggest a machinery for carrying out the inspection of offices. As a result of this inspection, it will be possible to evolve "work units" which will be a guide in determining staff requirements for expanding activities as also for effecting reduction in over-staffed sections.

Development Programmes

Rajasthan and Bombay are only two States in India, which have adopted the practice of entrusting developmental programmes to the officers who are also the administration heads of their respective jurisdictions. It is claimed that this experiment has worked satisfactorily in Rajasthan and, therefore, despite the recommendation made by the Karve Committee, there is no need to make any change.

The problem will assume great proportions if this policy is to be continued in

respect of the 200 blocks that the State is to have as a permanent pattern of administration. Hitherto, the practice has been to appoint the tehsildar or the sub-divisional officer as the block development officer and provide him with an additional tehsildar or an extra magistrate in order to divest him entirely of routine functions. The present practice of posting tehsildar and sub-divisional officers as block development officers is to be discontinued and altogether separate posts of block development officers will be created. These posts will be filled by selecting half the number from the tehsildar service, one-fourth from extension offisers posted at N. E. S. blocks and the remaining from the R. A. S. They will be solely responsible for development programmes without any concurrent responsibilities.

The Collector will continue to be the District Development Officer. It will fall upon him and the sub-divisional officer to ensure that there is complete co-ordination between the block development officer and all the other district officers. An endeavour will be made to make the jurisdictions of an N. E. S. block co-terminus with that of a tehsil.

Technical Departments

Another important decision taken by the Government is that technical departments must be headed only by technical men and that the offices of such departments must as far as possible be located in the States's capital and not outside. The technical departments should be restricted to sending proposals for policy decisions and that they should not actively participate in policy-making. The secretariat must retain the exclusive right of modifying the technically sound judgment in the light of non-technical considerations. At present the offices of the Director of Education, the Conservator of Forests and the Director of Mines and Geology are located at Bikaner, Kota and Udaipur, respectively. This is not only conducive to delay and obstruction to progress but also entails wasteful expenditure, as the officers of these departments are required to make trips to Jaipur several times. The State Government, however, is hesitant to shift these departments to Jaipur as it would result in reducing the already minimized importance of former State capitals.

Increase In Secretariat Staff

The decision of the Government to straightaway increase the strength of the Secretariat staff by 10 per cent is based on the realization that a very much more alert secretariat will be required if the targets set out by the second Plan are to be achieved. Any delay either in the detailed formulation of policy or in the issue of detailed instructions with regard to the settled policy are both likely to prove fatal to progress.

Smaller Sections

It had been decided that, as in the Government of India, the size of the sections should be small and that each section should be headed by an office superintendent. A number of junior I. A. S. and R. A. S. officers will be made available for posting at the Secretariat. From among the present Assistant Secretaries, those considered suitable, will be selected into the Rajasthan Administrative Service.

Finance Training To Reduce Delay

As delays at the Secretariat occur primarily because the files sent to the Finance Department for examination or concurrence are often incomplete and even lack the kind of details specially required by the Finance Department, it has been decided that during the Second Plan period, 30 assistant Secretaries should be trained in the Finance Department.

More Secretaries

Similarly, there will be three more posts of Deputy Secretaries, one attached to the Finance Department, one in the Education and Medical Department, and the third probably in the Development Department. There is to be one more post of Secretary to the Government in view of the reorganisation of the administrative departments of Irrigation, Social Welfare, Co-operation and Agriculture, as the present post of Additional Secretary, Appointments, would be declared an ex-cadre

temporary post to continue only during the tenure of the present incumbent.

Strengthening of Technical Departments

Strengthening of technical departments is considered as important as the reorganisation of the district administration of the secretariat. Henceforward, one Chief Engineer will be concerned mainly with the construction and maintenance of the multipurpose irrigation schemes and such other projects as are specially named by the Government, while the other Chief Engineer will deal with minor and medium irrigation schemes. In the Buildings and Roads section there is to be a new division in charge of the construction of mandis and roads in the areas receiving Bhakra water for irrigation. Animal Husbandry and Agriculture Departments are to be separated and each department is to be headed by a technical person. There will be separate Public Health Engineering Organisation for planning and executing schemes of water supply and sanitation. The Director of Medical and Health Services will be divested of all his specialist's functions so as to enable him to give his entire attention to the administration of the Directorate.

Since the Rajasthan Power Projects Committee, which was set up to provide a high-power organisation for the expeditious disposal of all issues pertaining to the purchase of stores and the creation of posts, has proved to be only another bottleneck, the Committee will be abolished and the Electrical and Mechanical Department will be entrusted with this responsibility.

Recruitment and Training

With regard to recruitment and training, the Government has decided to establish an all-purpose Revenue training school where the training of special recruits to the Rajasthan Administrative Service and the Rajasthan Tehsildar Service will be conducted. Permanent arrangements will be made in this institution for the training of officers from Kanungos upwards to the direct recruits to the R. A. S. Training in block development and famine relief may also be included as part of the regular curriculum of this training school. Two I. A. S. officers are immediately being sent to other States to study and report on the functioning of similar institutions there.

Directorate of Education is being reorganised, and the post of an Additional Director will be created.

Primacy of the Collector

The central theme of reorganisation of the administrative machinery to cope up with the development activities under the second Plan is the recognition of the primacy of the Collector and make him the final co-ordinating agency of all development works in his district. Having thus charged the Collector with co-ordinating responsibility, the Government has also made him all-powerful in regard to the control and supervision of work of all development officers within his jurisdiction.

In a circular to all departments in the secretariat, Divisional Commissioners, heads of departments and district officers, the Chief Secretary has redefined the duties and functions of district officers.

The Collector's control over development and Welfare activities in the district will generally conform to the pattern of the district magistrate's control over the police. While the organisational and professional or technical control over development officers of district rank will be that of the departmental superiors, the functional control in non-technical matters will be exercised by the Collector. The Collector will not be burdened with routine duties or establishment and technical matters about which he will have little knowledge, but he will be responsible for ensuring: (a) that the development and welfare schemes are such as would meet the needs of the people; (b) that the time-tables for various schemes are adhered to, and targets reached in time; (c) that there is no corruption; (d) that there is proper co-ordination, and difficulties in the execution of schemes are removed; and (e) wherever necessary, people's co-operation is assured.

'Development Officer' has been defined as an officer of district rank, serving in a

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Reorganisation of District Administration in U.P.

Considerable reduction in office work in the collectorates and much greater convenience to the general public are expected to accrue from the implementation of the Reorganisation Commissioner's report, which has been accepted by the U. P. Government, said a Government Press Note on November 1. Mr. K. K. Dass, I. C. S., is the Reorganisation Commissioner of the State Government.

The proposals will also mean relief to the overworked Collectors, upgrading the pays of all important clerks in all collectorates and brightening up of the collectorate buildings. To avoid over-crowding, members of the public will be encouraged to make use of enquiry offices which will be set up in every large collectorate.

Enquiry Office

The enquiry offices will be mainly for the convenience of the public. It will be in charge of a senior clerk having experience of many branches of work and enjoying the confidence of his colleagues and superiors. The enquiry clerk will be seated at one of the main entrances to the collectorate in a place which is easily accessible to persons coming from outside. In large offices, like Lucknow and Kanpur, he will have a telephone with an inter-communicating extension to the Office Superintendent and the Section Head.

The enquiry clerk will have near him a stamp vendor and petition writer. He will also keep a genrous supply of non-saleable forms. Outside his booth there will be a large black board on which announcements of immediate interest to large numbers of the public, such as directions for renewing arms licences, getting passport forms, etc., will be chalked instead of being pasted.

The main duty of the enquiry clerk will be to give information to the public as to how to set about getting anything they want. He will also give them information about any matter in which they are interested and which may be pending in the collectorate. He will also encourage them, after they have filled in a form or filed an application or made a request, not to come to the office, but to expect a reply through post. If there are complaints that things are not moving fast enough, it will be his duty to bring these to the notice of the clerk or officer concerned. He will also maintain a complaint book and a petition box.

If the enquiry clerk feels it absolutely necessary that a member of the public

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district in the departments of development education, electricity, gram panchayat, health and medical, irrigation, local self-government, public health engineering, public works, social welfare and revenue.

Development Officers

The Collector will exercise administrative and disciplinary control over development officers. Among other things, he will have the power to call for periodical progress reports from development officers and to issue such instructions regarding them as he may consider necessary. The Collector will be authorised to convey to the divisional officer a confidential report on the work of development officers.

Delegation of Powers

The process of administrative reform will not be complete by the mere expansion of the administrative machinery. Yet another committee dealing with the issue of greater delegation of powers is now at work. The existing delegation of powers more or less follows the pattern obtaining under the Central Government at the time of the formation of Rajasthan. If time-schedules have to be observed and targets achieved within a definite period, it is felt, more power must be given to those entrusted with the task of implementing the programme. If power continues to be centralized as hitherto, serious bottlenecks will be created; at the same time too liberal a delegation will have its own dangers. The recommendations of the committee are expected to take into account all these conflicting intricacies.

should see an officer or clerk, he will guide him to the person concerned. In case where persons may like to call back for documents or replies, he will arrange to give them a date by which they will be ready and should keep them with him for delivery. In no case, the enquiry clerk, will ask any one to come more than once for getting documents, etc.

Under the reorganisation scheme, every collectorate will be re-formed into sections. The superintendents will have under him a number of senior clerks who will have junior clerks working under them.

Fewer Dak Registers

As a result of rationalisation in the system of the working of the collectorate, number of receipt and despatch register will be much reduced. For example, 104 registers maintained at present in the Lucknow Collectorate will be reduced to only about half a dozen. Papers will move much more rapidly, orders and replies to the public and to the Government will go far quicker.

Less Red Tape

The number of steps through which a letter will pass before the writer gets a reply will be reduced from 27 to 14. A routine paper will pass through 19 steps instead of 41 before it is weeded out and destroyed. A large number of bulky files will go. Such files as remain will contain only a few papers relating to one case, which will make location of papers and their study by clerks and officers easy.

Simpler Copying System

The copying system will be simplified with a view to providing greater convenience to the public and decreasing the amount of work it involves at present. All copies of documents required by the public will be issued by the custodians of these documents and not by the Copying Department in the collectorate, which will be abolished. The copying section in every office will have an adequate number of English and Hindi typewriters and stenography allowance will be allowed to as many court readers as qualify for it.

Judgements will, as far as possible, be typed and a copy given to the accused at once. This, it is estimated, will save 60 per cent of the copying work on the criminal side. The courts will be permitted to use ball-point pens and carbon paper while taking down statements and consequently they will be able to make two or three copies of a statement as required.

Sections of Collectorate

Decrees in revenue cases will be prepared in duplicate with carbon paper and search fees for copying applications will be abolished.

The Reorganisation Commissioner has proposed a number of changes designed to improve the working of the various sections of the collectorate. The *roznamcha* in the record room and the system of maintaining double records, wherever it continues to exist, will be abolished. The classification of files will be cut down to two and it should not be necessary for the record room to maintain file of a case in which only a fine is awarded and realised.

In regard to issue of certificates which at present involves a lot of checking up and labour, it has been recommended that the declaration of a candidate about his domicile should be taken as correct by the appointing or examining authority. In cases of doubt, the authority may write to any reference quoted by the candidate.

In regard to grant of certificates to political sufferers, the jail itself will be authorised to issue these certificates and refer only such cases to the district magistrate in which they propose to refuse such a certificate.

Records of Arms

Work relating to the maintenance of records of arms of Government servants will be simplified and the system of inspecting arms at the time of renewal will be abolished, except for revolvers, pistols and automatic weapons. Sub-divisional officers and gazetted police officers will make a practice to inspect the arms

of licencees on their tours. Sub-divisional magistrates will renew licences as arms are presented to them. The renewal fee will be paid in stamps. Renewal will be recommended for three years in the case of licencees and will be automatic in the case of exempters. Licences for revolvers and pistols will be renewed by the S. D. M. instead of the A. D. M. Licences for the manufacture of fireworks will also be renewed by the S. D. M. Every licensee will be permitted to buy unlimited quantities of ammunition which will be entered in the licence. The police will stop verifying purchase of more than 25 round of ammunition from the buyer.

Passport Fees

Work in regard to the issue of passports will also be simplified. The passport fees will be received in stamps and this will make it unnecessary for an applicant to go to the Treasury and the State Bank.

The work in the courts will be cut down by abolishing a number of unnecessary registers and returns. Sureties in unimportant cases will be verified by vakils.

There will be a commissioner of oaths in all collectorates, beginning with those in five KABAL towns.

Increased Pay and More Facilities

Rationalisation of the working of Collectorates will make a number of posts superfluous, but no one will be thrown out of employment consequent on the abolition of such posts. Clerks and orderlies, whose posts are declared surplus, will be absorbed elsewhere, specially in the Planning set-up. Till they are so absorbed, they will be employed in the Collectorate in disposing of arrears of work.

The Reorganization Commissioner has also recommended upgrading of pay scales and several other ameliorative measures for the staff of the Collectorates that will remain after the abolition of surplus posts.

Some of the present temporary posts will be made permanent. Persons working on ex-cadre posts lose their increments when they are appointed to such posts. All temporary posts will now be regarded as temporary additions to the cadre. A break in service up to 30 days in all in the cases of temporary posts could also now be condoned by the District Magistrate for the purpose of increments.

The present rule which debars the Office Superintendent to work in his home district or the districts where he has worked as a clerk will be abolished. Stenographers will be debarred from the Divisional list, but ten per cent of the total strength of selection posts, to which appointments are made by the Board of Revenue, will be reserved for them. After appointment to the selection post, the stenographer will however, have to continue in his post.

The old practice of promoting clerks as Naib Tahsildars will be revived. Forty per cent of the Naib Tahsildars will be recruited directly, ten per cent from clerks and 50 per cent by promotion of Supervisor Kanungos. The field of eligibility for clerks will be limited to those below 40 years who have worked either as Amins or as Nazir or Naib Nazir. The present rules and procedure regarding medical treatment of Government Servants will be revised and the existing rules will be interpreted in a sympathetic spirit.

Rewards For Good Work

In the new set up, Divisional Commissioners will take special notice of good work. Every year the Commissioner will distribute cash rewards or tokens such as watches of the value of at least Rs. 50, and sanads to officials of his division whose work is regarded as outstanding. The distribution will be done after the Commissioner's inspection but before he leaves the district. The Commissioner will also issue a D. O. letter of appreciation to gazetted officers subordinate to the Collector whose work he finds particularly good.

The pay of the following officials in the Lucknow Collectorate has been recommended

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Public Administration In States

Andhra

Party and Govt. Co-ordination

Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, Chief Minister of the enlarged Andhra Pradesh, said in Kurnool on October 27 that he would do his best to bring greater co-ordination between the Congress organisation and the Congress Government in the new Andhra State. He said co-ordination and co-operation between the party Government and organisation was condition precedent for the success of the administration.

Collector's Hand in Fund Collection

The Andhra Chief Minister, Mr. B. Gopal Reddi, said in the State Assembly on September 30 that the Collector of Anantapur had been told for his future guidance that it was an omission on his part not to have obtained the prior permission of the Government in associating himself with the collections for two benefit preformances held in February in aid of the Lalith Kala Parished and other institutions in Anantapur. He refuted the imputation in a question by a member that the collections were made for the Governor's visit. The collections were for benefit performances "got up during the Governor's visit and at which the Governor was present", Mr. Reddi said.

Bihar

Anti-Corruption Drive

The Bihar Government, according to a Press Note, had announced that they would hold a Government servant "guilty of grave misconduct" if he acquired property disproportionate to his known sources of income. All the gazetted employees have been directed to furnish through the district officers details of their immovable properties and their financial condition at present and at the time of appointment. They have also been directed to report properties held in the name of their wives and other close relations. Those who have purchased new landed properties have been asked to explain how and when the purchases were made.

Pay Structure of Central Govt. Servants

Mr. Baliram Bhagat, Union Deputy Finance Minister, inaugurating the annual general meeting of the ministerial staff of the Bihar and Orissa Income-Tax Department in Patna on October 21, said that there was no possibility of setting up a second Pay Commission to revise the pay structure of the Central Government employees in the near future. The Union Government, he added, had always considered the demand of the employees with sympathy in the past and it would do so in the future.

Bombay

Most Efficient Government

Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab, who relinquished the Governorship of Bombay State on October 14, speaking at a farewell function given in his honour by prominent citizens of Bombay, two days ear-

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for upgrading, and the pay of all corresponding duties in all other Collectorates will be upgraded:— Chief Revenue Accountant from Rs. 100-150 to Rs. 150-200; English Record Keeper and Election Clerk from Rs. 85-145 to Rs. 150-200; Assistant English Record Keeper, Revenue Assistant II, Bill Clerk, Suit Clerk, Excise Clerk, Stamp and Press Clerk, Judicial Assistant III, Arms Clerk, Land Acquisition Clerk, Naib Nazir and General Clerk from Rs. 60-120 to Rs. 85-145.

In addition, the following general upgrading has been proposed for the whole of the State. Office Superintendent— Rs. 250-300 in small districts and Rs. 275-350 in large districts. Treasury Head Clerk—Rs. 175-250. The existing special pay will also continue. The Enquiry Clerk will be in the scale of Rs. 150-200 plus Rs. 25 special allowance per month.

The pay in the selection post is proposed to be in the scale of Rs. 250-300.

ier praised the "efficient and impartial" administration of Bombay State. Again speaking in Calcutta on October 16, he said that Bombay's Government was the most efficient adding, "there is no doubt about it."

Diploma Course In Public Administration

The Government of Bombay has instituted a three-year diploma course in public and business administration at the Sydenham College as one of many steps towards providing opportunities for matriculates.

No "Secrecy" In Administration

Mr. Y. B. Chavan, Chief Ministr designate replying to the felicitations by the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee and other local institutions in Poona on October 21 on his election as leader of the Congress Legislature Party in Bombay State, assured that his Government would not maintain any "secrecy" in its administration, but would take its decisions "openly". If a situation arose which "forced me to take secret decisions, I would resign from my position of power", he added.

Tube-Wells Scandal

Speaking on the Appropriation Accounts of the Government for 1953-54 and the Audited Report, 1955, the Finance Accounts for 1953-54 and the Audited Report on it in the Bombay Legislative Assembly on October 24, an Independent member, Mr. Naushir C. Bharucha, said that the Government was handling public expenditure in an "extraordinary callous" manner. The tube-wells contract, for instance, had become a scandal, There had been a "conspiracy" in connection with the tube-wells contract, for Rs. 2.5 crores, and the Minister in charge of the work "could not have been unaware of it", he said. He wondered how the Government could have given such a big contract to firm whose capital was Rs. 5 lakhs. Further, there was no "penalty clause" included in the terms of contract. Instead of suing the firm for failure to discharge work as undertaken, a loan of Rs. 10 lakhs was given on "personal security". What had the Government done with regard to that security?

The Deputy Minister for Public Works, Mr. Babubhai Patel, explained in great detail the circumstances in which the contract for tube-wells in North Gujerat came to be signed in 1950. Mr. Patal read extensively from the reports of the sub-committee on the discussions with the Union Government with regard to the sinking of tube-wells to step up food production. It was generally believd that the contract for the tube-wells was given to National Tube-wells Ltd. because the son of the then Union Minister for Food was connected with it, Mr. Patel said. Several inquiries had been made in connection with the work. The only firm which could undertake the work turned out to be National Tube-Wells. The Government of India too had advised the State Government that it had no objection to the work being entrusted to that firm. They alone had the necessary technical aid from abroad. The resources of the firm were found to be adequate. Mr. Patel, however, agreed with the Opposition criticism that the absence of a "penalty clause" in the contract signed with the National Tube-Wells was a "great draw back". A supplementary contract had, therefore, to be signed with the company. Mr. Patel gave details of the procedings taken by the Government against the partners of the firm. He pointed out that the Public Accounts Committee after taking all the facts of the matter into consideration had come to the conclusion that the action of the Government was justified in the circumstances.

Embezzlement of Govt. Funds

The Finance Minister, Dr. Jivraj Mehta, replying to the allegations that embezzlement of Government funds appeared to be on the increase, said it actually worked out to 0.1 per cent. (amounting to about Rs. 10 lakhs) over a period of four years, while the amount handled was about Rs. 200 crores. That had occurred in the temporary State trading schemes.

Defalcations In State Transport

In the past five years, there had been 13,589 cases of defalcations in the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation, involving a total sum of Rs. 1,34,602. Fifty-three

persons had been prosecuted in 40 cases of defalcation.

Penalising Bigamous Marriages

The Minister for Labour and Health, Mr. Shantilal Shah, told the Bombay Legislative Council on October 11 that the Government had decided not to grant official status and recognition to those who had contracted bigamous marriages after the enactment of the anti-bigamous Marriages Act. Mr. Shah said that the Government would shortly issue orders to its departments directing them not to appoint such persons on statutory and non-statutory committees or in any other honorary post. The State Government would also convey these decisions to the Union Government for the necessary action. The State Government had already issued instructions not to employ such persons in Government service. Mr. Shah was repliyng to a debate on a non-official resolution recommending to the Government to debar such persons from being appointed as members of statutory committees or in any other honorary posts. The Minister said it was the policy of the Government to discourage the appointment of persons who had contravened the provision of the Act on any Government and semi-Government committees. He, however, made it clear that is was not possible for the Government to take action against persons who had contracted bigamous marriages before the enforcement of the law in 1946 as such marriages were not regarded as an offence in those days. After the Minister's explanation the non-official resolution was withdrawn.

Himachal Pradesh

Govt. Assurances Not Implemented

Out of 30 assurance held out during the last budget session of the Himachal Pradesh Assembly only seven had been implemented, according to a report of the Committee on Government assurances presented in the Himachal Pradesh Assembly on October 17 by Mr. Shivanand Ramaul, chairman of the committee. The report stated that scrutiny of replies received from various departments "reveal in majority of cases sad state of affairs."

Jammu and Kashmir

Criticism of Administration

The administration came in for sever criticism in the Kashmir Assembly on October 11, when Mr. Syed Ali Sofvi moved a resolution that "in order to encourage honesty and eradicate corruption among the services, special promotions and increments be given to honest and hard-working officials having good reputation".

Mr. G. L. Dogra, Law Minister, replying to the debate, said the Government agreed with the principle underlying the resolution but there were certain practical difficulties in the application of the proposal made in the resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn by the mover.

A second resolution was moved by Mr. Mohammed Ayub Khan, asking that "a committee be set up in order to suggest ways and means to gear up the administrative machinery of the Government into motion with a greater speed and efficiency". He described at length how people were being made to suffer on account of red-tapism and other defects in the day-to-day administration.

Mr. Kulbir Singh, supporting the resolution, pointed out the main shortcomings of the administration. There were procedural defects which needed to be remedied, he said. The administrative machinery should also be improved. This could be done by setting up committees to draw up a plan, implement it and supervise and guide the departments from time to time. Advocating a healthy and competent administrative machinery, Mr. Anwar Masoodi said that villagers found it great difficult even to meet the high Government officials. The resolution was defeated.

Dearness Allowance For Low-Paid Employees

Replying to the debate on a resolution that the pay scales of low-paid employees be revised, Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed announced in the Kashmir Assembly on

October 4 that dearness allowance would be granted to all Government servants shortly and that a formal announcement would be made during the current session of the Assembly.

It was pointed out by a member that about Rs. 168,000 had been spent in giving parties by the Government to various personages in the last two years.

Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed said that the demand for dearness allowance was justified and the Government was eager to implement the assurance it had given to its employees. He said that nearly three years ago the pay scales of the employees were revised which cost the Government Rs. 70 lakhs annually. He estimated that the grant of dearness allowance would mean a recurring expenditure of Rs. 70 lakhs.

Government employees drawing not more than Rs. 300 a month. according to a later report were granted dearness allowance with retrospective effect from April 1. The gesture will cost the Government Rs. 55.5 lakhs annually. Some 45,000 persons will benefit by it. The case of 711 employees receiving a salary of more than Rs. 300 is under consideration.

State Services Recruitment

Lt-Col. Baldev Singh Sanyal, Kashmir's Inspector-General of Police, has been appointed Chairman of the State's Services Recruitment Board.

Madras

Enhanced D.A. for Govt. Servants

Mr. C. Subramaniam, Madras Finance Minister, on October 25 announced in the State Assembly the Government decision to enhance the dearness allowance of all non-gazetted officers and of gezetted officers up to a pay limit of Rs. 300 by a flat rate of Rs. 5. The Minister also announced that the minimum dearness allowance for any regular employee of the Government would not be less than Rs. 25 per month. In view of this decision, there would be a further increase up to Rs. 2 in the dearness allowance paid to about 1,36,000 low-paid Government servants, including peons, menials, policemen, school teachers and attenders. The total number of non-gazetted Government officers and gazetted officers who will benefit by the above decision is 2,86,400.

The Finance Minister said the flat rate increase of Rs. 5 and the fixing of the minimum dearness allowance of Rs. 25 would entail an additional annual expenditure of about Rs. 190 lakhs.

The case of village officers the added, would be considered separately after the Cabinet sub-committee report. The enhancement of dearness allowance would take effect on salary earned in November, 1956, and drawn on December 1, 1956.

The Finance Minister said the Government had "gone beyond its existing resources and any further improvement in the conditions of service of Government servants can be effected only if the resources are augmented substantially through the recommendation of the Finance Commission, or otherwise".

No Sanctity of Head of State

Mr. Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, on October 17 claimed in the presence of Lord Attlee that Indians were "more democratic" than the Britons. For the Indians, he said, even the head of the State was no exception when it came to demonstrating with black flags, whereas none in England would have a black flag at the Head of State. "We are more democratic", he added.

The Governor, who was welcoming the former British Prime Minister at a reception organised by the social service workers in the Raj Bhavan lawns, recalled that he was one of those who demonstrated with black flags against the Simon Commission, of which Lord Attlee was a member. It might give "a malicious satisfaction" to Lord Attlee, Mr. Sri Prakasa said, that "I have been shown black flags while on tour of the State".

Mysore

Interim Relief For One Lak Employees

On October 14 the Mysore Chief Minister announced interim relief in pay of non-gazetted employees in the then-Mysore Government. Interim relief would be given to those employees who were drawing less than Rs. 300 per month and it would be in the form of a personal allowance of 10 percent of pay, subject to a minimum of Rs. 5 and a maximum of Rs. 20. It would take effect from August 1, 1956. The Government hoped that this interim relief would benefit about 99 per cent of its employees, Mr, Manjappa added. The Chief Minister said that this relief would mean an additional monthly expenditure of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Government and it would give relief to about 100,000 employees.

Orissa

Enquiry Into Administrative Structure

The Government of Orissa have appointed a Committee consisting of Mr. Samuel Das, (Chairman), Mr. Padma Charan Das and Mr. Braja Sundar Mahanti, to report to Government within six months whether the existing administrative machinery is appropriate and adequate to give effect to the measures contemplated in the legislation enacted by Orissa Government in pursuance of the Directive Principles of policy, as laid down in the Constitution of India, namely, laws leading to Land Reforms, control of Agriculture, Anchal Sasan, Village Panchayats, etc., to advise if, for the above purpose, the existing administrative machinery needs modification or strengthening in any respect, to examine and recommend to Government what co-ordination is necessary between the different legislative measures towards land reforms and devolution of responsibility and to this purpose what co-ordination is required between different revenue systems of Orissa; and to examine financial implications of the administrative set-up recommended.

While making its recommendations the Committee will examine all the land reform laws and allied laws passed in recent years and particularly the Orissa Estates Abolition Act, the Orissa Anchal Sasan Act, the Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, the Orissa Tenants' Relief Act, and the Orissa Agriculture Act.

In a Press Note issued in November the Orissa Government said the system of administration, which had come down from the past, was not designed to deal with such details affecting the life of the community, as were envisaged in the legislation passed recently. In consequence, some difficulties had arisen in enforcing the laws. It had, therefore, been felt necessary to examine the administrative set-up required for the implementation of these laws and ascertain what modification or strengthening would be needed to achieve the object. It has also been felt necessary to co-ordinate the aims and objects of these various measures so that there would be no overlapping of functions. Also different laws under different systems of Revenue administration which exist in Orissa contribute to the complications in no small measure.

Punjab

Anti-Corruption Drive

Punjab's Chief Minister, Mr. Pratap Singh Kairon, told a Press conference in Chandigarh on October 20 that the anti-corruption drive launched by the Government had helped unearth corrupt practics of nearly 800 officials in various districts of Jullundur Division. He said that a "great deal" of corruption prevailed among Revenue and Irrigation Department employees in the distribution of flood loans last winter. These cases were detected by the "flying squads" set up in March last after the assumption of power by his Ministry. The squads went from village to village and made direct inquiries from peasants about the officials who had been allegedly indulging in corruption. Mr. Kairo said that, while fomal police cases were not registered against the corrupt officials, prompt departmental action was taken against them. This course, he added, was adopted to ensure quick and effective action, which was not always possible through court cases.

The Punjab Government, it would be recalled, had in May intensified its anti-corruption campaign and appointed Mr. N.K. Mookerjee, I.C.S., as the whole-time Secretary for this purpose. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Nakul Sen, who had then been in charge of the Anti-Corruption Department in addition to his duties, had said on May 10 that the work of anti-corruption had increased a lot "and it was a developing subject". Mr. Mookerjee was formely Secretary to the Chief Minister. The Government had also appointed a Senior Officer to examine representations from such officials against whom action had been taken by the last Ministry.

Flying Squads To Check Delays

In his endeavour to eliminate delays in Government administration, the Chief Minister has appointed a "flying squad" to conduct surprise checks in various departments and discover instances where decisions have been unnecessarily delayed. Sardar Kairon said on October 20 that in a recent check the squad had found 40 cases of delay ranging from six months to two years in a section of the Police Department. He said he would take actoin against officials responsible for the delay.

The squad had similarly unearthed 34 instances of delay in a single branch of the Chandigarh Estate Office and 27 in a wing branch of the Transport Department. The squad, the Chief Minister said, had found that the secretaries to these departments had not even issued instructions to their subordinates regarding the use of "time flaps" on every file though he had ordered their introduction nearly five months ago. The Chief Minister himself is in charge of two of the three departments. Time flaps record the progress of each file and enable the Government to find where the delay has occurred.

The Chief Minister said that another squad would soon be set up to ensure that checks were more extensive and prompt.

Rajasthan

Integration of Services

The work of integrating nearly 70,000 Government servants belonging to 22 covenanting States that merged in April, 1949, to constitute the State of Rajasthan, was completed only recently.

On a review of the position in 1955, it was found that a very large number of Government servants still remained to be integrated. The number of unintegrated employees was assessed at 62,000, spread over 51 Government departments and offices. In November, 1965, the Government appointed a special officer (Mr. P. N. Singhal) to complete the remaining work, and in view of the impending States reorganization, June 30, 1956, was fixed as the last date for completion of the integration work.

Saurashtra

Protest Day

A Non-Gazetted Civil Audit and Accounts Office Association, representing clerical cadres in the office of the Controller, Saurashtra, on October 25 observed a "protest day" to voice their opposition to further direct recruitment of apprentices in the State Administrative Service by the Controller and Auditor-General of India.

Uttar Pradesh

Governor's Letter Criticised

The Speaker of the State Assembly on October 21 ruled out an adjournment motion to discuss the letter of Private Secretary to the Governor and Chancellor of the Allahabad University, to the Vice-Chancellor of Allahabad and other Universities. In the letter, the motion said, Mr. R. K. Talwar had asked that the students should be asked to purchase "Indian Inheritance," a book published by Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay. This was a misuse of the powers of the Chancellor, the motion alleged. The Speaker said whatever the Chancellor wrote to the Vice-Chancellor was an internal matter of the University wich was an autonomous body and did not concern the Government.

Mr. R. K. Talwar, I. A. S., Secretary to the Governor, Mr. K. M. Munshi, in his letter to the Vice-chancellors, referring to the "previous instructions of the Chancellor concerning the obtaining of Volume I of the "Indian Inheritance" published by the Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay" had said

that he was desired to inform that Volumes II and III of the "Indian Inheritance" were ready and available with the registrar, Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay.

The letter further said that "the number of copies allotted to Allahabad University was 300 of each Volume."

The Secretary to the Governor in a clarification issued later said that in a conference of the Vice-Chancellors of the U. P. Universities held in 1954, it was decided to arrange extra curricular lectures on India's cultural heritage. Before this could be done, they felt the need for a handy volume, cheaply priced, containing selections from the writings of distinguished authors, both Indian and foreign. The Chancellor, assisted by Dr. Radha Kamal Mukerjee, Vice-Chancellor of the Lucknow University, undertook to arrange the preparation and publication of such a work. On the advice of the Minister of Education, Government of India, it was subsequently decided that such a book should be published not only for the benefit of students of the U. P. Universities, but also for students and teachers all over the country. Since the main objective was to make this book (which was expected to cover about 700 pages in three volumes) available to the student community at a cheap price, the Chancellor arranged with the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, a non-profit-making educational institution, to take the risk of publishing it in their Book-University Series.

The Bhavan ultimately agreed to price the first edition as a special case at Rs. 1/4/- per volume as against their normal rate of Rs. 1/12/-. Since the copies available were limited in number, they had to be equitably distributed among the various Universities and colleges and their students. The Chancellor's letter of and August 1, 1956, conveyed no more than the mere information regarding copies of the book being reserved' for students and teachers of the particular University or College, should they care to go in for them, Mr. Talwar said.

Fund Collection By Education Minister

The Speaker of the U. P. Vidhan Sabha on October 22 disallowed an adjournment motion relating to the collection of funds by the State Education Minister from the text-book publishers for the Jaunpur political conference on the ground that the Minister was at liberty to do so in his individual capacity.

The State Education Minister, Mr. Hergovind Singh, had addressed letters, under his signature, to several text-book publishers asking them to financially help the holding of the U. P. Congress conference in Jaunpur on October 26 and 27. The Education Minister wrote that Jaunpur was a backward place and had been hit hard by floods. The estimated cost of the conference was Rs. 50,000. He invited the text-book publishers to attend the conference and in a post script to the letter said that financial help should be sent to the Treasurer, Reception Committee of the U. P Congress Conference, Jaunpur, under advice to him.

Bigamous Marriages Ban

As a sequel to the promulgation of the Hindu Marriage Act, instructions have been issued to all departmental heads in the U. P. Government that no Hindu Government servant in service will now be permitted to contract a second marriage while his or her spouse is living. The position with regard to bigamous marriages was previously covered by the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, under which whenever a Government servant sought permission to contract a second marriage during the life-time of his first wife, it was necessary for the State Government to obtain, if possible, the opinion of the first wife before making up its mind whether permission should be granted or not. Such a permission was also subject to the condition that it did not offend any law prohibiting bigamy. The new instructions apply both to male and female Government servants in contrast to the previous rules which were applicable to male employees only.

Service Commission Member

Mr. S. N. M. Tripathi, Deputy Commissioner at Lucknow, has been appointed a member of the State Public Service Commission from October 24 for a term of six years.

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Reorganisation of Services—Plan Projects Evaluation—Man Power Directorate

The Government of India has constituted a high-level expert committee to consider the reorganisation of the administrative services in the light of the need to accelerate State-sponsored industrialisation and to build a welfare State. Mr. L. P. Singh, who till recently was the Chief Secretary of the Bihar Government, has been appointed officer on special duty in the Home Ministry to undertake the inquiry described as "the first of its kind since partition."

He will be assisted by a consulting committee, headed by Mr. Y. N. Sukhtankar, Cabinet Secretary. The committee includes Mr. M. K. Vellodi, I. C. S., Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Mr. C. S. Venkatachar, I. C. S., Secretary to the president, Mr. H. M. Patel, I. C. S., Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Mr. P. C. Bhattacharya, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Mr. A. V. Pai, I. C. S., Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Mr. B. N. Jha, I. C. S. Secretary, Ministry of Communications.

Plan Projects Evaluation Committee

A high power committee on Plan projects aimed at developing a system of internal efficiency audit has been set up. The Planning Commission has informed the State Governments about this. The decision to set up the committee was taken at the last session of the National Development Council in May.

The committee will organize investigations and initiate studies in the use of finance and other resources on different projects under the second Five-Year Plan. This is to ensure that organization, procedure and programming methods in every field are so designed that money spent yields the best possible results. In view of the large and growing outlay on Plan projects, all means of securing the economic and efficient use of scarce man-power resources, materials and equipment have to be explored.

Apart from the Union Home Minister, who is chairman of the committee, its members include the Union Ministers of Planning and Finance and the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.

For convenience of investigation, all projects in the Plan, industrial and non-industrial, have been divided into six main groups. Two Chief Ministers of States for each of the groups will be members of the committee. These members are nominated by the Prime Minister.

Man-Power Directorate

The Government of India has decided in principle to set up a directorate of manpower to evolve policies regarding technical personnel. This decision is in line with the recommendations of the Engineering Presonnel Committee, presided over by the Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Y. N. Sukhtankar, made earlier this year. The directorate, which is expected to supplement and not supplant existing agencies, will, among other things, maintain a register of technical personnel in the higher grades.

The shortage of technical personnel at all levels is one of the mojor impediments in the way of implementation of the Plan. A series of man-power surveys were instituted last year for a study of the requirements of engineers for power and irrigation projects over the next 15 years. A similar survey of other engineering personnel requirements for industry and construction was undertaken by the Engineering Personnel Committee.

In addition, a survey of health personnnel is being made by the Planning Commission and of scientific personnel by a committee under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

The Community Development Ministry has its own estimates for various grades of personnel.

English As Official Language

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, a former Governor General of India, speaking in Madurai on October 8, said that the language prevailing in a State should be the language of that State, and the language for inter-State communication as well as for communication between a State and the Centre should continue to be English and should not be replaced by Hindi.

He said that though Hindi was the language of a vast majority of people in the country, it should not be the official language of India. In matters of administration equal justice and expediency were very important matters. If Hindi were made the official language, it would not be fair to the large body of Tamil people living in a compact area who had studied English for two hundred years. English was to them an asset and a possession.

It would be an act of "grave injustice" if the people in Tamil Nad were ordered to manage their business in Hindi which they did not know. English was well understood both in the Centre and in other States.

"Why should we not utilize the Engilsh language in which we have been trained for several generations? I should give it up if the Central Government were ignorant and happened to be a purely Hindi Government without any knowledge of English. But that is not the case. All Intelligent and educated men in India today know English. Nobody can question that fact", he said.

Official Language Commission's Report

Dr. A. Krishnaswami, M.P., urged in Madras on October 12 that Government of India should publish immediately the Official Language Commission's report in full with evidence and that the issue of official language must be settled before the elections take place.

Travelling Concession To Government Servants

The Union Government have agreed to grant travelling concession to Government employees whose homes are more than 250 miles away. The concession will be available to all Govetnment employees who have completed one year of service and will be available once in two years for the purpose of going home on leave other than casual for not less than 15 days. Families of Government employees are eligible for this concession. The entire cost of the journey for the initial 250 miles on each of the outward and return journeys will be borne by the Government servant himself. For the remaining distance the Government will meet 90 per cent of the actual fare, the balence of 10 per cent being borne by the Government servant. The scheme has been drawn up in order to enable the Central Government to draw their employees from all parts of the country. In the absence of such facilities persons serving at long distances away from their homes experienced serious hardship and the expenditure involved in journeys to their homes acted as a deterrent to persons from distant areas seeking employment under the Central Government, specially at lower levels of pay.

Railway employees and members of the Armed Forces are not eligible for this concession as they already have their own schemes for the purpose.

The scheme came into operation on October 11, 1956.

Pay Scales of States Services

The Union Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Mr. B. N. Datar, said in Bellary on October 13 that the Government of India was considering a proposal to give financial assistance to the State Governments for enhancing the pay-scales of their employees. Central Govt. would give loans to the States for this, but in exceptional cases grants would be given. In view of the rearganisation uniform pay-scales had to be evolved in the State, Mr. Datar said.

Public Administration In Other Countries

China

Decentralisation of Legislative Powers

Mr. Anantasayanam Ayyangar, speaker of the Lok Sabha, who returned to Madras on October 27 after a four-day visit to China, said in an interview that the Chinese leaders were contemplating decentralizing the legislative powers of the National People's Congress. The Chinese State being unitary, Mr. Ayyangar said, all the legislative powers were now concentrated in the National People's Congress.

He added that the Chinese leaders, who were in charge of legislation, were anxious to learn the working of provincial autonomy in India and he had invited a delegation of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, headed by its Chairman, to visit India. The Chinese leaders also proposed to throw open the proceedings of the Standing Committee to the public.

Nepal

Nepal Administrative Service

Under the Civil Service Act of 1956, the Nepal Gov nment on October 4 published rules for the preliminary formation of a Nepal Administrative Service. None except Government employees will be appointed to the administrative cadre without the recommendation of the Public Service Commission. There are to be four grades in the new administrative service. A five-man committee to advise the Government on appointments to the different grades has been recommended. Rules for educational qualifications, service records and seniority of Government servants with annual salaries of Rs. 1,800 and above been laid down.

Draft Penal Code

A draft of the Penal Code for Nepal prepar by the Law Commission, appointed by the Nepalese Government, has been released for circulation in Nepal to elicit public opinion on the various recommendations. Nepal, at present, has no codified criminal law and a commission was appointed to examine and codify the existing laws of the country and prepare a comprehensive and suitable code. Well defined laws for offences like defamation, trespass and breach of trust are absent in Nepal.

The draft code covers the entire range of crimes in the field of State affairs, society, religion and public business. It has drawn heavily upon the Indian Penal Code, since the Commission was "greatly impressed by the clarity of the Indian Penal Code."

If the draft is accepted by the Government, Nepal will be the second country (the other is Burma) outside the British Commonwealth to pattern its criminal laws on British jurisprudence.

Pakistan

Reorganisation of Govt. Structure

The Government of Pakistan has decided to set up a six-man Committee to consider the reorganisation of the structure of the Central Government in the light of the new Constitution. Mr. G. Ahmed, Officer on Special Duty in the Cabinet Secretariat, will be the Chairman. The Committee will particularly examine the question of the distribution of powers as between the Centre and the provinces and recommend changes necessary in the organisation of the Federal Government.

Anti-Corruption Week

Maulana Bhashani, president of East Pakistan Awami League, called upon the people to observe an "anti-corruption week" from November 5 by staging demonstrations, taking processions and holding public meetings throughout the province. In a public meeting, the Maulana criticised the rule of the Muslim League and characterised it as a reign of nepotism, corruption and party conspiracies." He expressed confidence that the Awami League would steer the province clear of these scars.

Autumn Planning Seminar

The fifth Autumn Planning Seminer of the Institute of Town Planners (India) was held in Chandigarh from October 8 to 13 under the presidentship of Professor V. N. Prasad, Head of the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. Simultaneously with the Town Planning Seminar was held the States Planning Officers' conference.

Both the conference and the seminar were attended by over 100 Architects. Town Planners, Municipal Administrators and Development Commissioners of several States. Also present were Commissioners and Administrators of important Local Bodies in India with considerable experience in implementation of slum clearance and housing programmes.

Half of the time of the seminar was devoted to discussion on the rapid expansion of India's cities and the serious problems—health, social and administrative,—which this abnormal rate of urbanization is creating. The other days were set apart for the consideration of the inter-related subject of how to make village life more attractive. A subject of particular interest at the seminar was the intensive drive for the removal of slums which has been launched recently in Delhi at the instance of the Prime Minister.

Discussions covered several aspects of town planning, such as housing shortage, disappearance of open spaces, acute insanitary conditions prevailing in the older parts of the various cities and the unsatisfactory state of residential accommodation in some of the new industrial centres and suburban towns.

One of the difficult questions facing the experts has been how to make slum clearance financially successfull. In most of the Indian cities slums are being cleared at an exceedingly slow pace owing to the prohibitive cost of the schemes.

That the migration of population from rural to urban areas is continuing unabated gives the problem of slum clearance and housing shortage added urgency.

Apart from the deterioration in the living conditions in cities that it causes, the migration, it is feared, may soon adversely affect the working of various rural development projects. Hence the emphasis which the seminar's organizers placed on evolving a practical plan to make villages "clean and life there varied and comfortable."

The basis for their deliberations was provided by a brief message from the Prime Minister, in which he hoped the seminar "will turn people's minds more and more towards our villages and produce ideas and proposals for their improvement". It was by village planning that "we shall ultimately be judged", he said.

Inaugural Address

This idea was also stressed in a speech by the Rajpramukh of P.E.P.S.U., who felt that enough attention had not been paid to rural planning. There was an enormous movement of population from villages to cities, which created numerous problems such as housing shortage and slum clearance. They could best be solved by making village life more attractive and thus checking the influx of population into the cities.

Town planners and other authorities should provide amenities not only in the urban areas but also in remote villages, Rajpramukh said.

The Rajpramukh also suggested that industries be planned in such a way that the people employed in them were spread over a large area and not concentrated in a few big cities.

It is only in this way that we can prevent the migration of multitudes from villages, he added.

Dealing with town planning, the Rajpramukh said: "We have got to develop in this country not only Chandigarh but a large number of towns, properly planned

and properly laid out to suit the Indian requirements."

Another problem which needed utmost attention, he said, was that of family planning and this was co-related with the housing problem. Any outmoded ideas to tackle this important problem would have to be given up.

The Rajpramukh said Chandigarh would serve as a guiding star for the development of future towns in the State and the country.

The Rajpramukh advised the town planners to plan boldly to solve the enormous problem of housing which India was facing at present. They must, however, he said, keep in view the peculiar requirments of the people of India. He was opposed to an imitation of foreign ideas.

Presidential Address

An idea of how big the problem of housing was in India, was given by the President of the Town Planning Institute, Professor V. N. Prasad. He estimated that 11.1 million new houses were required to meet the urban demand for the 10-year period ending in 1961. Of these as many as 6.4 million houses were needed to house the people migrating from villages to towns.

The urban population of the country grew from 228 lakhs in 1921 to 619 lakhs in 1951, showing an increase of 41 per cent between 1941 and 1951, that is, up to the commencement of the first Five-Year Plan. During the period of the first and second Five-Year Plans, with heavy emphasis on industrialization transport and commerce, the rate of growth of the urban population would have risen further. The increase might well be 50 per cent at this rate.

Taking average family size as 4.71 (1951 census), the additional houses required for the increase in the urban population only would be 64 lakhs, he said.

Professor Prasad felt that since private enterprise had not been able to provide the people with decent homes at rents within their limited means, the construction of safe and sanitary houses must be considered a national concern.

Mr. Prasad said: "It behoves this august assembly to make an earnest effort to appreciate the magnitude of the most pressing national problems, like housing and slum clearance, and to suggest some feasible approaches towards the solution of such problems.

"We are particularly blessed in having been able to conduct our deliberations here in Chandigarh which is perhaps the first and boldest venture in the country in the line of new town planning movement and social rehabilitation," he said.

There was a tendency, he said, to consider the housing problem in isolation. The problems of housing, slum clearance and town and country planning were entirely inter-related and should be tackled on the basis of a "combined operation".

In the Second Five-Year Plan, he added, no more than casual attention had been given to slum clearance and town planning work. For all practical purposes this work had been left to the meagre resources, financial as well as technical, of improvement trusts and municipalities.

Prof. Prasad said: "The time has come to call the attention of the administration of urban society to what the Community Project Administration has achieved in the rural areas and urge them to consciously accept aided seif-help as the most practical approach to solving the urban problems of community organization of housing and slum clearance as well.

"Perhaps with a slight change in the approach and technique, relying more on the possibilities of marshalling the inherent human capacity for co-operative action, many more urban improvement programmes can be launched and completed than have been envisaged in the second Five-Year Plan with State initiative."

Prof. Prasad said there was need for central land use planning legislation. "So long as the highly individualistic policies on land are allowed and the Constitution protects zealously the privates ownership

of land, it has to be confessed that no real town and country planning will be possible," he added.

In his presidential address, Professor Prasad drew pointed attention to the need for a central agency to co-ordinate the different programmes in the country, which had an impact on land and space. He felt that no real town and country planning would be possible as long as highly individualistic policies on land were allowed and the Constitution zealously protected its private ownership. He said the method adopted by Britain could be a worth-while alternative to land nationalisation in this country. The British Town and Country Planning Act was based on the philosophy that land belonged more to the community than to the individual.

Chandigarh's Role

Earlier, Mr. P. L. Varma, Chief Engineer, Chandigarh Capital Administration, welcoming the delegates to the conference said:

"Chandigarh has given to India the city planning movement. Not that cities were not planned before, but planning never became a movement till Chandigarh came on to the map."

An exhibition on "Indian villages" was also organized to provide the necessary educational background to the technical discussion in the seminar.

Prime Minister's Message

Following is the text of the message, which the Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, sent to the Autumn Planning Seminar at Chandigarh :-

"The seminar organized by the Institute of Town Planners of India which is going to be held at Chandigarh, in the Punjab, has my good wishes. I am particularly interested to learn that among the subjects to be discussed are 'Village Planning and Improvement' and 'Slum Clearance and Redevelopment' A third important subject is 'Public Participation in Planning.'

"While it is important that we should plan our big cities properly and put up noble public buildings, it is far more important that we should think more and more in terms of village planning. It is by that that we shall ultimately be judged and it is by that also that we shall improve the housing and living conditions of 80 percent of our population.

"So far as slum clearance is concerned, I have often laid great stress on this. No city or town which has slums should rest content, as they are a continuing blot and an irritation.

"All these activities are or should be on a large countrywide scale. If so, it is essential that the public should understand them, cooperate with them participate in them.

"I hope the seminar will turn people's minds more and more towards our villages and produce ideas and proposals for their improvement."

Honorary Secretary's Speech

Mr. C. S. Chandrasekhara, honorary secretary, Institute of Town Planners, India, in his address said that the inauguration of this autumn Planning Seminar marked yet another step taken by the Institute in its endeavour to promote planning activities in this country.

He said: "The seminar is the fifth of its kind. It started with a very modest beginning in Delhi in 1952. Since then, the Institute has been able, with increasing success, to organize seminars in Hyderabad, Kharagpur and Lucknow and today in Chandigarh. The generous co-operation which the Central and State Governments and local bodies have given to the Institute in the organization of seminars indicates the usefulness with which these seminars have served both planners and planning officials in this country.

Village Planning

"In the next two days, the delegates here would discuss a subject which has the utmost significance in the national development. Village planning, while it appears simple, is yet a very complex problem. The village, as a primary unit of

living, should satisfy the physical need of individuals in the villages as well as the community as a whole. On account of the severe limitations in regard to resources and technical assistance, village planning and imprnvement calls for the greatest ingenuity from the planners. It is in these villages that customs, habits and traditions are deeply rooted; the plan of the village has to be identified closely with the manner of living of the people and the improvement should be such as to be convincingly beneficial to the villages.

"It is, therefore, befitting that this subject should be discussed in a planning seminar where experts in sociology, geography, administration and physical planning are present.

It often happend, Mr. Chandrasekhara observed, that a town planner was understood to plan only towns and a city planner was understood to plan only cities, and neither of them was understood to be qualified either to stackle the planning of villages or the planning of regions.

"It is the art of drawing together in an orderly manner all those threads that determine the shape, colour and character of our physical environment so as to create a pattern or design which is pleasing and effective and which corresponds to that inner sense of fitness and wholeness which has always been a part of the spirit of progressive man."

While in the planning of a village, he said, everything from the location of a *chulha* in a kitchen to the layout of the entire village and its relation to the surrounding villages was thought out in detail, in the case of the planning of a city or town such details were broadly treated and greater attention was given to the population movement, traffic circulation, employment and recreation.

Difference Between Planning and Development

He said there was a distinct difference between planning and development; when one considered the promotion or growth under any one aspect, such as agriculture, animal husbandry or industries, then it was the development of agriculture, or animal husbandry or industry that was foremost in the mind. The concept of planning, he added, brought into the picture a co-ordination of the developments in different fields, namely agriculture, industry, trade, communications and employment. It, therefore, required a multi-disciplined approach. Hence essentially, whether it was a village or a town, a city or region, the planner's job was the same—the orderly drawing together with a multi-disciplined approach those factors which went to determine the pattern of physical development.

It was with these objects that the Institute had proceeded to bring together experts in different fields and to create an environment wherein the planning function could be exercised. "We hope" he added, "that in our sessions in the next two days we shall achieve in regard to village planning and improvement, the same success that we have achieved hitherto."

50,000 Houses For Coal Miners

The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund plans to construct 50,000 houses for coal miners in India during the next ten years. The plan has been accepted by the Welfare Funds Advisory Committee and is now awaiting the formal approval of the Union Government. Mr. S. P. Singh, Coal Mines Labour Welfare Commissioner, said in Jharia on Oct. 10 that besides construction of houses more attention would be paid to the education of miners' children. The present multi-purpose institutes would be expanded and more public health measures instituted, he added.

A subsidy of Rs. 25,000 had been made to the Jharia water board for surveying water supply requirements in the Jharia coal-fields, Mr. Singh said.

State Planning Officials' Conference

Urban Slum Clearance: Village Improvement

Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon, Chief Minister of Punjab on October 11 inaugurated the second Conference of State Planning Officials in Chandigarh which was held along with in Autumn Planning Senminar of the Town Planners' Institute of India. In his address Sardar Kairon commended self-help for "slum clearance in the old cities of the country."

Sardar Kairon, said the "slum clearance to my mind cannot become a popular movement in the country unless self-help becomes the guiding force for the removal of slums."

Mr. V. N. Prasad, President, Institute of Town Planners, in his address to the conference, said the aspiration of all civilized countries today is to provide decent housing for all.

Conference Recommendations: Slum Clearance

The State planning officials' conference in its concluding session on October 13 recommended that the State Governments and local authorities, in co-operation with the Central Government, should sponsor comprehensive pilot projects on slum clearance and rehousing in the country.

As regards finances for the projects, the conference has suggested that adequate provision should be made in the second Five-Year Plan for slum clearance and housing.

With a view to proventing the growth of slums, the conference stressed the necessity of preventing the use of large cities, control the growth of cities and reduce the size of existing cities by adopting a policy of dispersal of industries, houses and population.

Zoning for Industrial and Residential Purposes.

While expressing the opinion that the location of houses and industries in mixed areas was a major contributing factor to the rise of slums, the conference recommended a policy of developing separate zones for industrial and residential purposes within easy reach of each other or connected by cheap transport facilities.

The conference also recommended the classification of areas in three parts in a city to help the determination of priorities in planning a slum prevention programme. The three types of areas are (1) areas demarcated for demolition, (2) comprehensive developed areas, and (3) comprehensive areas not requiring priority of treatment owing to the presence of reasonable facilities and services.

The other measures for prevention of growth of slums include undertaking an effective slum-clearance programme by agencies such as local bodies, community welfare councils, setting up of housing authorities, using social education as an instrument of slum prevention.

Shortcomings In Slum Clearance Scheme

The conference regretted that the slum-clearance scheme of the Union Government was confined mainly to the provision of loans to the State Governments for purposes of slum-clearance and re-housing, and for giving the loans certain conditions had been stipulated. It pointed out that certain shortcomings have been found in the scheme and suggested the following modifications in the scheme:

(1) Open plot schemes should be given up altogether in small towns as these would lead to the creation of further slums and uneconomical use of land obtained after clearing slums.

(2) Floor area standard should be increased to 300 sq. yards as 220 sq. yards already provided was insufficient.

(3) Standard cost of construction be modified.

The conference further recommended that as a general directive, the slum-clearance scheme should lay down that projects to benefit from the scheme should be chosen in those towns and cities which

(*Continued on page* 36)

West Bengal Model Village Plan

West Bengal Government's plan to rebuild the flood-affected villages in the State, envisages construction of temporary shelters in the first stage and building of model villages in the second to provide accommodation for nearly 200,000 faimilies rendered homeless by the floods. Dr. B. C. Roy, Chief Minister, giving outlines of the plan on October 17, said model villages will be classified into three categories according to population and their requirements. Each model village will have a community centre, school, market, co-operative store, an industrial centre and a brick field. Water supply, irrigation and sanitation arrangements as well as other amenities will be provided.

Model villages, Dr. Roy continued, would have brick-built houses. The amenities to be provided will depened on the size and site of the village. Each village will have a 30-ft-wide road connecting it with the district headquarters. Intrernal roads will also be constructed, each 20 ft. wide. About 70 percent of the area selected for a model village will be set apart for construction of residential buildings and the remainder for laying out roads, parts and playgrounds. About 10 acres will be reserved as pasture land and for growing trees to be used as fuel. In every village there will be a store for grain, seeds and fertilizers to be run on a co-operative basis.

The Government felt that every village should have a brick field of its town. About 5,000 bricks are necessary to build a small house. To manufacture these bricks about a ton of coal is needed. The Government propose to supply this quantity of coal when the villagers are prepared to make these bricks by their own labour.

For every 250 persons there will be a tube-well, in addition to masonry and ring-wells. Derelict tanks will be re-excavated for providing drinking water and for irrigation and fishery purposes. Dug-out latrines will be provided in the villages.

Residential houses will have roofs of corrugated iron sheets or tiles.

(*Continued from page* 35)

already have or are preparing a master plan which should clearly indicate that land use zoning is evident from these plans.

Planning Seminar's Recommendation

The Planning Seminar recommended, for the proper planning and development of the village, it is necessary to provide space for (1) community facilities, (2) rehabilitation of such people as are displaced from the village in the process of its improvement and (3) future expansion of the village. This area should be left with each village during the consolidation of holdings.

In cases where the consolidation work has been completed and sufficient land has not been left out for the above purpose, the required land should be acquired. If necessary, suitable legislation should be enacted for the purpose.

The seminar suggested improvement of village environments to ensure healthy community living and reconstruction and remodelling of village houses with necessary ventilation, lighting and other sanitary conveniences.

The preparation of a whole village to undertake improved housing, combining with it the redevelopment of the village site, in order to implement the composite and co-ordinated programme and to make full use of the idle man-power in the village through all-out self-help efforts has also been suggested.

90,000 Ahmedabad Families Live In Slums

The Ahmedabad Corporation has started a survey to collect statistics regarding slums and congestion. According to the census of 1951, 90,000 of Ahmedabad's 157,000 families stay in slums and sub-standard houses. The Corporation's five-year plan has earmarked Rs. 11 crores for the construction of 25,000 tenements for low-income group people.

Housing In Second Five Year Plan—2*

The housing problem has grown steadily over the past few decades, both in rural and in urban areas. There have been few systematic surveys of housing conditions in India. Housing statistics are also extremely deficient and incomplete and data are not available showing either the progress of new construction or the extent of shortage. For organising housing programmes on any scale it is essential that accurate statistics should become available at regular intervals. The Central Statistical Organisation have taken steps, in collaboration with State statistical bureaux, to collect data on housing and building materials, both in the public and in the private sectors. Increasing building activity and construction will come to be an important factor in the regulation of the economy. The importance of statistical information in this field cannot therefore be too much stressed.

National Sample Survey

In its seventh round (October 1953 to March 1954) the National Sample Survey investigated housing conditions in 943 sample villages as well as in 53 sample towns and in the four cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. Of the 53 sample towns 14 had a population of 100,000 and above, 9 of 50,000 to 100,000, 14 of 15,000 to 50,000 and 16 had a population of less than 15,000. The data obtained in the survey have been recently tabulated and, although they are still provisional, they throw light on certain aspects of the housing situation in the country.

The investigation showed that in rural areas about 85 percent of houses have mud plinths, 83 percent walls of mud, bamboo and reed and abont 70 percent. roofs of straw, grass, reed, mud etc. About 7 percent. of the houses have plinths and walls of brick, cement or stone and roofs of corrugated sheets, tiles etc. More than 95 percent of the houses have no latrines attached to them.

As regards sources of drinking water, about 70 percent. depended on wells, 13 percent. on tanks and ponds, 12 percent. on natural sources like lakes, springs and rivers, 3 percent. on tubewells less than 1.5 percent on tap water supply and about 1.5 percent on other sources.

About 81 percent of the houses had three rooms or less, one-roomed houses accounted for 34 percent. and two roomed houses for 32 percent. of the houses studied in the survey. About 38.5 percent. of the households had less than 100 square feet per head of floor space and about 32.5 percent. between 100 and 200 square feet.

In the urban areas studied during the investigation, nearly one-fourth of the houses had plinths, walls and roofs of mud. The study confirmed the impression that over the past two decades new construction has not kept pace with the growth of urban population. From the data available it appears that as against increase in urban population at a rate varying from 3 to 4 per cent. per annum new houses have been built at a rate varying, say, from 2 to 2.5 per cent. About 44 percent of the houses in urban areas have only one room, 28 per cent two rooms, 12 per cent. 3 rooms and 16 per cent. 4 or more rooms. About 46 per cent, of houses had less than 100 square feet per head. These facts illustrate the congestion which exists in urban areas and, as matters stand, is likely further to increase.

Shortage In Urban Areas

The extent of the housing shortage which exists in urban areas can only be broadly estimated. For an urban population of 62 million there were in 1951 about 10 million houses. The shortage of houses in that year was roughly reckoned at about 2.5 million. The population of towns increased by 10.6 million between 1931

* The concluding part of chapter on Housing in India's Second Plan. Earlier part appeared in the July, 1956, issue.

and 1941 and by 18.1 million between 1941 and 1951. During these decades the number of occupied houses in urban areas increased respectively by 1.8 and 1.7 million.

Even apart from the question of the quantity of housing, the quantitative shortage increased considerably during the period 1941-51. Alongside post war developments and Partition there has been accelerated urban growth. Between 1951 and 1961 the total urban population is expected to increase by about 33 per cent. so that, in the absence of effective measures and carefully formulated programmes of urban development, the shortage in 1961 may be twice as much as in 1951.

Comprehensive housing policies and programmes are likely to emerge only after a few years of practical experience in working various housing schemes in the private sector and through public authorities. In this chapter an attempt is made to formulate a broad approach to housing policy and urban development in the context of economic planning and programmes for the development of both large-scale and small-scale industries.

Housing Problems

In expanding housing facilities, during the past two or three years the main problems which have arisen and to which attention has to be given are the following :

(1) in rapidly growing towns developed sites are not available to a sufficient extent ;

(2) construction in the private sector tends to concentrate on expensive houses intended to fetch high rents and the needs of the lower middle and middle classes are not adequately catered for ;

(3) apart from assistance which the Government now provides, adequate institutional arrangements for housing finance do not exist ;

(4) co-operative housing has made comparatively little progress ;

(5) there is considerable need for research in building materials and techniques and for prescribing standards of construction with due regard to the availability of local materials and the economic use of scarce materials ; and

(6) with a few exceptions, State Governments are not yet adequately organized for undertaking and assisting extensive housing programmes.

It is suggested that a proportion of funds provided under the low income group housing scheme may be used on land development on a planned basis, so that plots can be made available at reasonable prices to persons who apply for loans under the scheme as well as to other persons with low incomes. Speculation in land, which occurs frequently, should be dealt with through control of land use and regulation of transfers of land.

In Private Sector

The greater part of costruction which occurs in the private sector is for rent and generally rents are high in relation to the rent-paying capacity of the vast majority. In developing private construction, the emphasis should be on providing facilities to enable persons of moderate means to build houses for themselves, and public authorities should take the necessary initiative.

In the nature of things, the low income-group housing scheme introduced by the Central Government can meet only a fraction of the total demand. There is need for adequate arrangements of an institutional character for housing finance. In 1955 the Housing Ministers' Conference suggested examination by States of the possibility of constituting State Housing Finance Corporations. In the past a limited amount of housing finance has been made available by insurance companies.

In view of the nationalisation of life insurance and the urgent need for the provision of additional housing in most urban areas, we recommend that

a special study should be undertaken by the Central Government of the institutions and methods which could be best developed in the special conditions of India for providing real estate credit on an adequate scale.

House building has an important role in expanding employment opportunities and stimulating capital formation and private saving. From this aspect also it is desirable to take early steps to evolve appropriate institutions for providing financial and other assistance. In this connection, the experience of co-operative housing societies in various urban areas and amongst industrial workers should be examined with a view to determinig the directions in which co-operative housing schemes may be pursued with special advantage and the character of the institutional and other facilities required for the development of co-operative housing.

National Buildings Organisation

In accordance with a recommendation in the First Five Year Plan, for developing building research and techniques, the National Buildings Organisation was established in 1954 in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. The functions of the Organisation are to recommend measures for promoting quicker, cheaper and better construction and economy in the use of scarce materials and manpower. The Organisation is also attempting to compile and collect statistics relating to building activity and building materials and to serve as a clearing house for information regarding the technology of buildings designs, materials and construction. The National Buildings Organisation has drawn up a comprehensive programme of research through the various research laboratories and institutions. On the development side, the problems under investigation include measures to improve the quality of bricks, the manufacture of boards, partition walls, tiles hollow bricks etc. The use of seasoned and treated timbers and bamboos in construction, cheap methods of fixing doors and windows to masonry, current uses of scarce materials in construction and possibilities of reducing the use of cement and replacing it by lime where possible, are also being studied. The National Buildings Organisation is also investigating the production of kankar lime and other limes. Work on mud plaster is being undertaken from the point of view of moisture resistance. In view of the need to economise in the use of scarce materials and reduce housing costs, steps are being taken to evolve standards of housing which will be satisfactory without being expensive or ostentatious and will involve the use to the maximum extent of local materials after appropriate processing.

The question of organisation of carrying out housing programmes was considered at the Housing Ministers' Conference which was held in 1955. The Conference recommended that in each State there should be a department or agency to co-ordinate the various aspects of housing, especially, in regard to the assessment of housing needs, preparation of master plans, acquisition of land and implementation of house building programmes. As housing and other construction programmes are undertaken on a large scale, the need has been felt for organising systematic training of masons, brick-layers, carpenters, plumbers and other personnel. Some steps in this direction have been recently taken both by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply and by a few States, but considerable expansion of training programmes is required.

Urban Development

The shortage of housing in urban areas calls for a series of measures for the expansion of housing facilities. If attention is concentrated only on these measures, in face of the present trends in urban development, the shortage of housing will continue to be accentuated. It is necessary, therefore to consider urban housing not merely as a problem by itself or as an attempt continually to catch up with events but as part of the wider problem of the planning of urban areas and of their economic and other relationships with the regions in which they are situated.

Between 1921 and 1951, the urban population rose from about 27 million to about 62 mil-

lion, the proportion of the urban to the total population increasing from about 11 to more than 17 per cent. As the national economy has become more closely integrated, the economic, social and political importance of towns has increased. In the nature of things, much of the development in the past has been of an unplanned character. Large towns have attracted to themselves new industries and services and the problems of providing housing and other amenities have become increasingly acute. Rise in land values, speculative buying of lands in the proximity of grwoing towns, high rentals and the development of slum areas are features common to most large towns. Few municipal administrations have been able to cope with the problems which have thus grown cumulatively. With a view to the closer understanding of those aspects of urban growth which bear specially on rural-urban migrtion and the development of employment opportunities, the Research Programmes Committee of the Planning Commission has initiated surveys of 21 leading cities and towns.*

In recent years, much ught has been given to problems of rural planning; similar attetnion has now to be given to the complex problems of urban development and re-development. India is on the threshold of rapid industrial development. Unless there is adequate forethought and planning, industrial progress will be accompanied by serious social and other problems in urban areas which may become increasingly difficult to manage. It is, therefore, necessary that from now on the future course of urban development should be viewed by public authorities at the Centre, in the States and in each region in its correct perspective. Even though quick results may not be forthcoming, appropriate policies should be laid down from the start and determined efforts should be made to follow them with the support of enlightened public.

If urban development and re-development and housing policies are viewed in the context of planned economic development and rapid industrialisation, three problems claim special study, namely, (a) methods of securing planned dovelopment in urban areas, (b) expansion of housing facilities, and (c) development of civic administrations along sound and progressive lines.

The second problem has been examined at some lenght here. On the third aspect, it is sufficient to remark here that for urban development to proceed on desirable lines, competent municipal administrations with adequate powers, resources and administrative and technical staffs are essential. Urban development and re-development throws increasing responsibility on municipal administrations which few of them are at present able to discharge. In many western countries, local authorities are the principal agencies for implementing housing and other civic programmes. In India also, it is essential to use local authorities more and more as agencies of the State for providing housing and other civic amenities in keeping with the requirement of economic development.

If planned urban development is to be undertaken and the lines along which various urban or potentialy urban centres are to develop over the course of the next ten or fifteen years, there is need for a clear conception of the pattern of economic development and especially of industrialisation which is to be followed in determining the distribution, local and size of various industrial and other undertakings.

Within the framework of plans drawn up on the basis of territories such as districts and States and for different sectors of development such as agriculture, industry, transport, etc. and for their more efficient implementation, it is also necessary to work out physical and economic plans based upon the study of urban-rural regions, viewing each region as an area for integrated local planning.

*Agra, Allahabad, Aligarh, Amritsar, Baroda, Bhopal, Bombay, Calcutta, Cuttack, Delhi, Gorakhpur, Hyderabad, Hubli, Jaipur, Jamshedpur, Kanpur, Lucknow, Madras, Poona, Surat and Visakhapatnam.

The regional planning approach is required especially for large and growing towns and for river valley areas which are being developed through new irrigation and power projects. The aim ultimately must be to evolve balanced urban-rural regions which would provide stable and diverse employment and, through the provision of the necessary economic and social over-heads, achieve development at reasonable social and economic cost.

To achieve this objective, action has to be taken in each State along five principal directions:

Master Plans For Towns

(1) Each State should have a phased programme for the survey and preparation of master plans for all important towns. These should provide for integration of land use and zoning principles in each town or area with a view to obtaining the maximum amount of efficiency and economy in working and living conditions. In this connection towns and cities such as Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Poona etc. would require early attention.

Regional Plans For New Towns

(2) A number of new towns have recently come into existence; others are likely to develop rapidly during the second and subsequent plans as industrialisation proceeds. Sindri, Durgapur, Bhilai, Rourkela, Chittaranjan and Neiveli are illustrations of towns is this group. As early as possible, the preperation of regional plans for such towns should be taken in hand.

(3) Development of river valley areas should be based on careful surveys of their topography, resources and development needs and potential. A pilot project for a regional planning survey of the Damodar Valley area will shortly be undertaken. Surveys on similar lines are required, for instance, in areas served by the Bhakra Nangal, Hirakund, Chambal, Tungabhadra, Koyna and other important projects.

Town and Country Planning Legislation

Town and country planning legislation has been so far enacted in four States, namely, Madras, Bombay, Hyderabad and Saurashtra. Uttar Pradesh has such legislation under consideration. It is recommended that town and country planning legislation should be enacted in all States and the necessary machinery for its implementation should be set up. The preparation of town plans is at present often held up for lack of qualified personnel. The expansion of existing facilities for the training of town planners and architects has been provided for in the plan.

Integrated Implementation

There are a number of programmes in the second five year plan which have considerable bearing on urban development and re-development, such as, large industrial and other undertakings, whose location is determined or influenced by the Govt., development of village and small industries and of industrial estates and townships, major irrigation and power projects, small town and rural electrification schemes, establishment of warehouses and marketing centres for agricultural produce, urban water supply and sanitation schemes, industrial and low-income group housing schemes, expansion of transport facilities etc. These and other programmes should be implemented in an integrated manner with careful attention to their impact on urban and regional development and with reference to the present and future requirements of planning in different parts of each State or region.

Such co-ordinated planning will ensure that the resources devoted to these programmes will yield satisfactory result, and the costs of economic development as well as of providing civic amenities will be reduced.

Pilot Housing Projects For Rural Areas

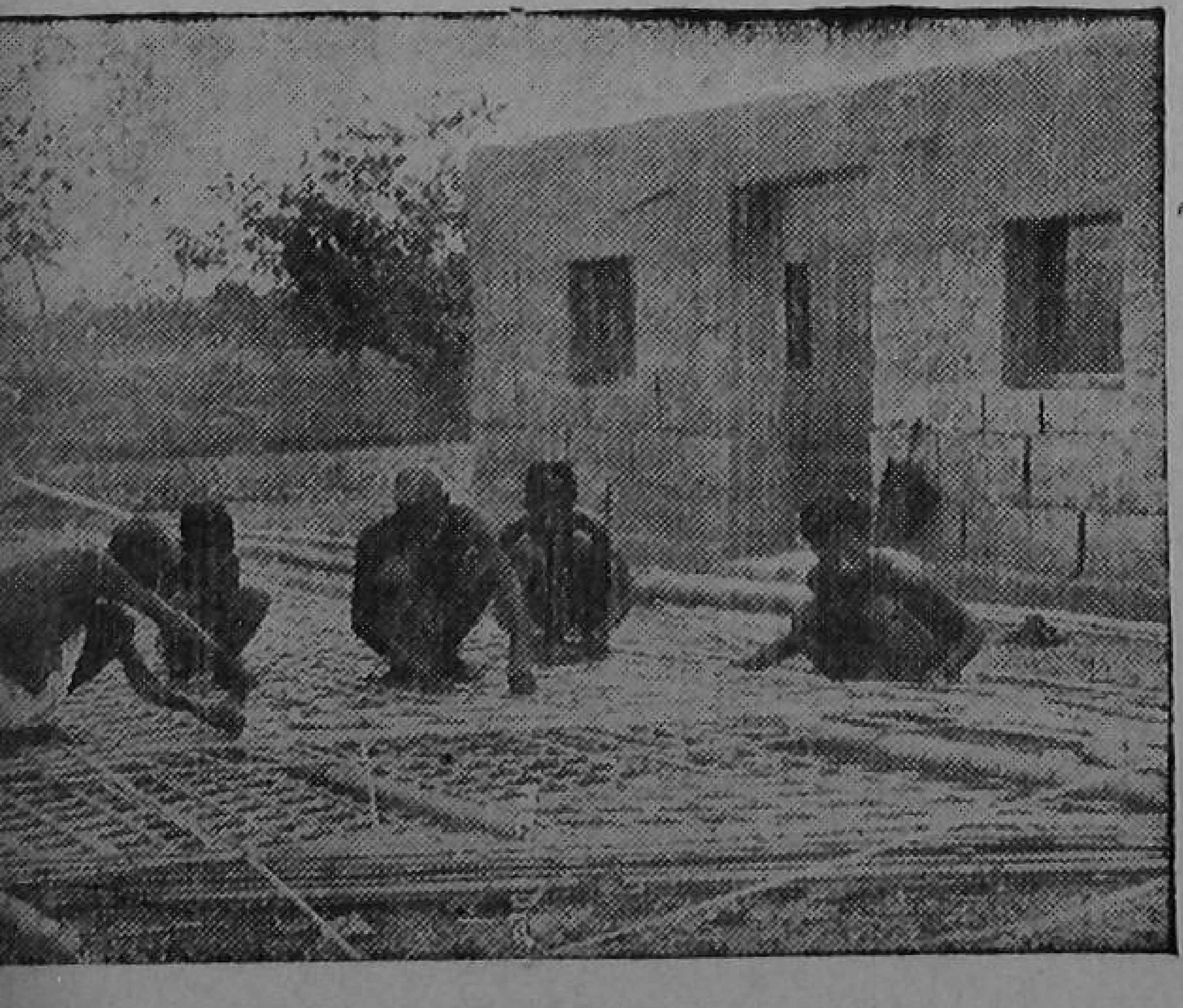
The Ministry of Community Development has asked the State Governments to help select villages within their territories for the setting up of 625 pilot housing projects in the community projects and national extension service areas during the Second Five-Year Plan period.

According to a tentative list, the pilot projects allotted to each State, on the basis of total population, are as follows: Andhra—37, Assam—17, Bihar—73, Bombay—58, Madhya Pradesh—38, Madras—61, Orissa—27, Punjab—22, Uttar Pradesh—111, West Bengal—40, Hyderabad—33, Madhya Bharat—14, Rajasthan—28, Mysore—16, PEPSU—6, Saurashtra—7, Travancore-Cochin—17, Ajmer—1, Bhopal—1, Coorg—1, Delhi—1, Himachal Pradesh—2, Kutch—1, Manipur—1, Tripura—1, Vindhya Pradesh—6 and Jammu and Kashmir—5.

These pilot villages will be self-contained, fully developed units with water supply, sanitation, lighting, irrigation, cooperatives and cottage and small industries which will provide employment to the landless labourers and other unskilled artisans in the area.

These pilot village projects will serve the inhabitants of the adjoining villages as models to be followed with local initiative and resources.

The Second Five-Year Plan has made a provision for Rs. 10 crores for setting up model villages, preferably in the community project and national extension service areas.



Voluntary Labour for Village Housing

Rural Housing

Improvement of housing condition in rural India is a task of enormous size. There are 54 million houses in rural areas, a large proportion of which need reconditioning and rebuilding.

The improvement of rural housing is an aspect of general rural development and is to be viewed not as an isolated objective, but as a part of the larger scheme of rural reconstruction. There are certain directions, however, in which specific action can go ahead. Such action may be on a small scale at first but can be readily extended later. In rural housing, the bulk of the materials employed are locally available, and fuller use can be made of them. There is considerable scope for voluntary co-operative labour and local community action and if the right approach is addopted in the beginning, fairly rapid progress can be achieved.

During the First Plan some steps have been taken in this direction. In National Extension and Community Project areas about 29,000 houses were constructed and about the same number reconditioned.

In the Second Plan, resources have been allocated for rural housing. The programme is necessarily in the nature of an aided self-help programme in which education and guidance play a large part. Assistance from Government will mainly be in the form of technical advice, demonstrations of model houses and model villages, provision of improved designs and layouts, pilot experiments concerning use of local materials, organisation of co-operative village programmes based on voluntary labour.

International Congress of Housing and Town Planning

The 23rd International Congress for Housing and Town Planning was held in Vienna in the last week of July, and it was attended by technical men as well as elected representatives of Local Authorities, members of Housing Societies and individuals interested in the planning of town and country. The discussions in this session of the Congress were concerned with the problems created by urban growth. Following the official opening of the Congress by the Lord Mayor of Vienna, the First Plenary Session was opened by papers given by Raphael Pico of Puerto Rico and Professor Franz Schuster of Vienna on the general theme of the Congress — The City and its Surroundings.

Thereafter, the Congress divided itself into six study groups, which deal with the problems of the Structure of the Modern City; the Structure of the City and its Environs; Measures required to support the Planning work; the Rehabilitation of Slum Areas; and the Standards of Building Density and their Effect on Housing. The Groups were presided over by delegates from the United States of America, Austria, Germany, France, Holland and Great Britain.

Recommendations

Among the recommendations put forward by the various Groups in the second Plenary Session of the Congress were for much tighter development control to prevent chaotic development on the urban fringe; the need for executive regional authorities and schemes covering economic units irrespective of local government boundaries (the difficulty of defining such a unit was appreciated); the desirability of much larger allocations of public money to enable big development schemes to be carried out; more comprehensive planning legislation; greater study of the problems of declining cities as distinct from those of growing cities.

The International Federation for Housing and Town Planning has five Standing Committees, dealing with the problem of Housing Societies; the Relation between Rent and Family Incomes; Planning Education; Regional Planning for Underdeveloped Areas; and Technical Advances in Town and Country Planning. Meetings of these Committees were held during the week of the Congress. Contact is maintained between members of the various Committees during the two-year interval before the next Congress and, if possible, meetings are held in the interim.

Exhibition of Planning Development

Along with the Congress an exhibition was staged showing work in planning and development by the member States in relation to the theme of the Congress.

India showed the development plan of a large neighbourhood at Rourkela in Orissa State, West of Calcutta, which is being developed by damag and Krupps of West Germany for the Government of India.

South Africa sent a plan for a new town at Welkom with a large civic centre on Beaux-Arts lines.

America's contribution was a Regional study of a group of eleven towns on the north side of Boston, undertaken by students of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The English Exhibition covered the general field of decentralisation from the congestion of the old cities and the untidy wasteful sprawl on the outskirts of cities, resulting in the unnecessary loss of agricultural land, to good examples of urban reconstruction, the building of new towns, and the expansion of others, as well as a plan of London's Green Belt.

Poland contributed the Development Plan of Katowice in the coal-mining area of Silesia and of the new town to be built to receive its overspill at Nowe Tychy.

Denmark showed the plan for Copenhagen, which, with a population of one-and-a-half millions, has to cope with the growing traffic problem.

Madrid's Peculiar Problem

The illustration of a new neighbourhood on the outskirts of Madrid was of great interest if somewhat depressing. Economic stringency and climatic conditions were obvious contributors to the layout of a neighbourhood which, surrounded by traffic routes, was wholly served within by footpaths ten feet wide. Vehicles are permitted to use the footpaths at certain times of day or in emergency. One small open space had to serve the whole of the area and that was paved. It was pointed out that this was necessary to keep the area free from dust since rainfall is only 48 percent higher than in the Sahara!

Items in the Swiss Exhibition showed that profiting from their experience of sporadic development around the lakes, it is now proposed in many instances to push building back from the lakeside by interposing an agricultural zone.

Russian Delegation

Russia was not represented in the Exhibition, but some half a dozen Russians attended the Congress for the first time since the War. The leader of the delegation in a speech at one of the open sessions referred to the fact that 564 towns destroyed in the war had been completely rebuilt and that housing in the next five years would be at the rate of one million houses per year. Films showing the enormous amount of post-war reconstruction in Russia were shown at that country's Embassy.

Film Competition

A Film Competition in which thirty-three films on housing and planning were submitted from nine countries, was also a feature of the Congress. The first prize went to the University of Pennsylvania for a film entitled "It can be done." Canada received a prize for 'Farewell Oak Street' showing the rebuilding of a slum area. Other countries, including Great Britain, received commendation for their entries.

Building Development in Vienna

Delegates to the Congress paid visits to new building developments in Vienna and to a wide area to the south of the city as far as the Semmering Pass. Vienna, like other cities, has suffered from much sporadic development of all sorts due to the lack of adequate planning control, but vigorous steps are being taken to remedy the situation and prevent any further spoliation. Large areas to the south of the city are now reserved for agriculture and for the weekend enjoyment of the Viennese. It is from here also that Vienna gets most of its water supply.

Special Stamp Issue

Austria commemorated the Congress by issuing a special stamp which shows in miniature the plan of Vienna surrounded by satellites, each of which follows the outline of new developments in other countries, including two of the English new towns.

Australian Planning Congress

The annual meeting of the Australian Planning Institute which this year took the form of an all-Australian Planning Congress celebrated the recent affiliation which has taken place between the Town Planning Institute of the United Kingdom and the Australian Planning Institute. The Australian Planning Institute embraces the Commonwealth of Australia and its mandated and other territories. It was founded in 1952. The affiliation agreement provides for the close integration of the members of the two Institutes, for a similar method of examination prior to election to Corporate Membership and for an equally high Code of Professional Conduct. The U. K. Institute was represented at the Congress by Mr. James M. Fraser of the Singapore Improvement Trust.

Planning For Industrial Townships

In the steel towns of Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur, which are springing up in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal respectively, well-planned industrial townships will house the men, who will work in these State-owned undertakings. Modern Industrial townships have already sprung up in Sindri, Chittaranjan, and Niveli.

Rourkela

The German Combine Krupp-Demag have entered into an agreement with the Government of India for erecting the Steel Mill at Rourkela, including the construction of a modern township.

According to the 1955-56 report of the Ministry of Iron and Steel, project estimates had been prepared for the Rourkela township and were under scrutiny of the Government. A Master Plan of the township had also been prepared and construction work was progressing. Detailed lay out of the various sectors of the township was being worked out. Work had started on a ring road 7 miles long connecting the township to the village of Hamirpur.

The Master Plan of rourkela was exhibited at the International Exhibition at Vienna this July—held along with the 17th Congress of International Federation of Housing and Town Planning.

Bhilai

Under the Indo-Soviet Agreement of February, 1955, the Government of India have assumed responsibility for the preparation of the plant site, construction of buildings, roads' railway tracks, planning and construction of towship, etc. for an integrated Iron and Steel factory at Bhilai in Madhya Pradesh. The Bhilai township will be situated in an area of 14,000 acres, of which 3,425 acres had already been acquired.

For providing efficient cooling arrangements and adequate water supply, it has been found necessary to deepen the existing Maroda tank near the plant site and also the construction of another reservoir. Temporary arrangements have been made for the supply of water both for drinking and construction purposes, and the water works, belonging to the Municipal Committee Drug, has been taken over and treated water from this source would be supplied to labour camps, residential buildings and work sites. In order to augment the capacity of the Drug Water Works, especially during the summer season, a weir is being constructed across the Sheonath river.

Electric power required for the plan will be supplied by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board and for this purpose they are setting up a 90,000 k. w. thermal station at Korba.

Contour survey of the town was nearing completion, according to the Iron and Steel Ministry's report for 1955-56. The site has been demarcated according to a preliminary plan prepared by the Russian Consultants.

Durgapur

The scheme for the setting up of the third steel plant in the public sector at Durgapur has also made considerable progress. An agreement has been entered into by the Government of India with the Indian Steel Works Construction Co., a Consortium of British steel and other allied interests. The Consortium will carry out the entire work of erection and civil engineering at site under the supervision of the Consulting Engineers to the Government of India. Work preliminary to the construction of the plant at Durgapur has already commenced.

Equipment moved to site within 72 hours

Within 72 hours of the signing of the final contract between the Government of India and Iscon (Indian Steelworks Construction Company, London), the Ministry

of Iron & Steel took action to get the project started. Cementation Patel, Civil Engineers & Contractors to Iscon, had, in collaboration with Tractors (India) Ltd., set the ball rolling by moving three gigantic Caterpillar DW21 300 h. p. motorised scrapers to Durgapur, as well as four D. S. Caterpillar tractors and other essential equipment.

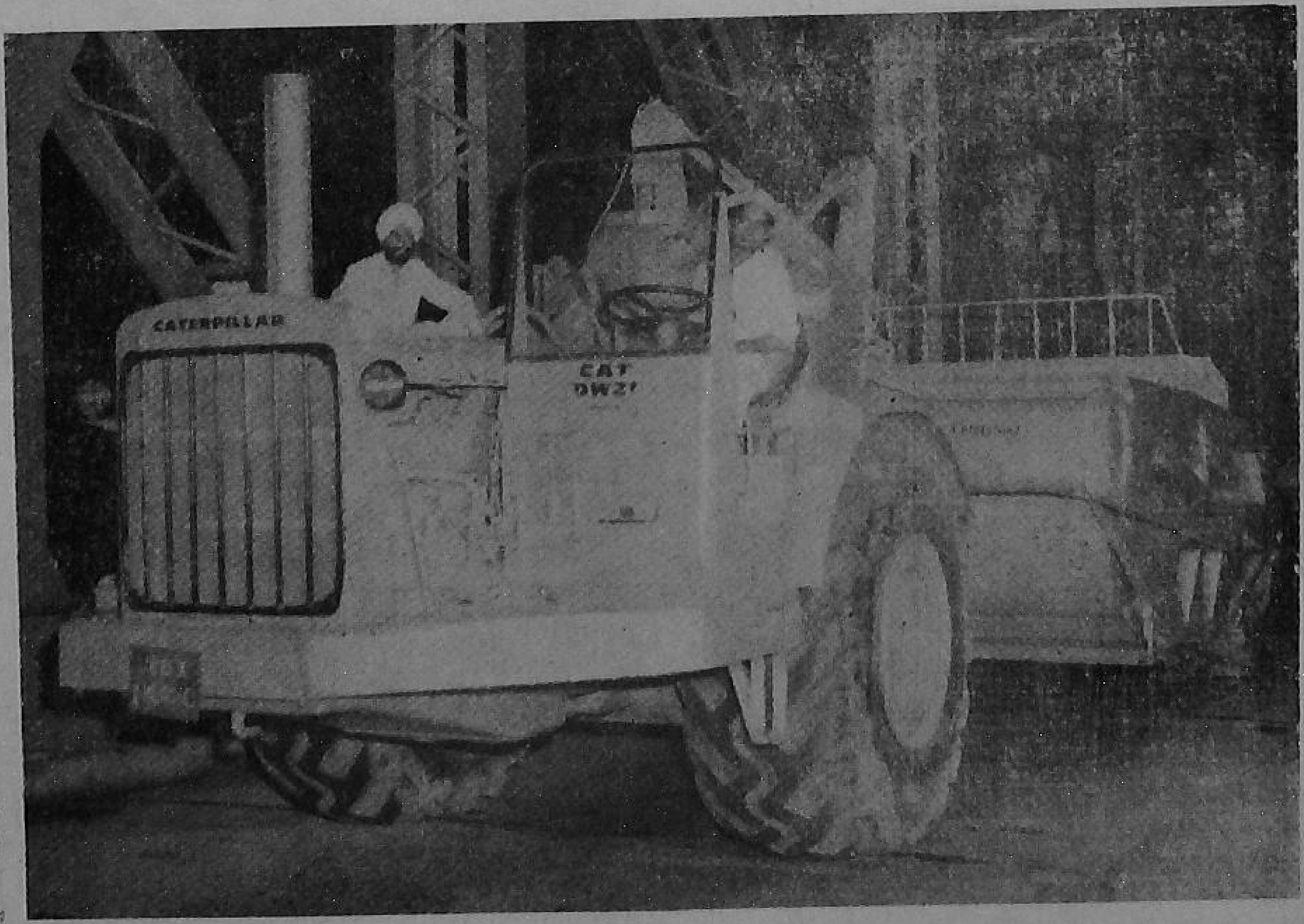
This entire project has been finalised within one year of the starting of negotiations between the Government of India and Iscon, whereas agreements on other projects have taken well in excess of that time. The most modern and efficient equipment that engineers can produce is being used on this project, so important to India's Second Five-Year Plan, in order to complete the job in record time.

Refugee Township in Jammu

Work on a new colony for Kashmiri displaced persons in Jammu has been started by the Central Public Works Department. Estimated to cost Rs. 56 lakhs, the colony will be completed by the end of March next year.

The colony will have 2,000 quarters, each built on a plot of 30 ft. × 60 ft. Each quarter will have a room measuring 12 ft. × 10 ft., a verandah 10 ft. × 7 ft., a kitchen and a bathroom. The plinth area of one quarter will be 556 sq. ft. Provision has been made for an additional room in each quarter to be constructed subsequently, if so desired.

Construction of 450 quarters has already begun and work on the rest will commence soon.



One of the three gigantic Caterpillar DW21 300 h.p. motorised scrapers, being used in Durgapur.

U. P.'s HOUSING PLANS

Twenty per cent of the industrial population of the Uttar Pradesh State would be provided housing accommodation by the end of the Second Five Year Plan. This was claimed by Mr. Ali Zaheer, Minister for Local Self-Government, during discussion on housing schemes at the meeting of the Local Self-Government Standing Committee on October 29.

Out of 20,719 tenements to be constructed during the First Plan period, 14,912 have already been completed and the remaining are under various stages of construction in 13 industrial towns of the State. The Second Plan envisaged the construction of 17,550 houses in 18 industrial towns at a cost of Rs. 562.62 lakhs. With the completion of over 38,000 houses under both the Plans, accommodation will be provided to almost 20 per cent population of industrial workers of the State.

The Committee recommended that the housing colonies should be self-sufficient units and should be provided with markets, schools, dispensaries and community centres. It suggested that the funds for providing these amenities should either be found from the Central Government or be included in the construction plan of these colonies.

Slum Clearance

Under the slum clearance and sweepers' housing scheme of the Government of India the State Governments are required to provide a contribution of 25 per cent of the cost and the rest will be provided by the Government of India in the shape of 50 per cent loan and 25 per cent subsidy. The Committee was of the opinion that the State Government should take full advantage of the scheme and devise ways and means to raise the necessary funds for its 25 per cent contribution. The Government have tentatively proposed to provide a subsidy of 12½ per cent from the State funds leaving the local bodies concerned to find the rest of the 12½ per cent from their own resources. A final decision in this matter will be taken shortly by the Government.

Building Materials Shortage

Discussing the Low Income Group Housing Scheme, the Committee pointed out that because of the non-availability of building materials, the scheme is not becomming as popular as it should be and suggested that at least cement be given on a priority basis to those whom loan under the scheme is sanctioned.

More Cinema Theatres For Bombay

The Chief Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, told the Bombay Legislative Council during the question time on October 23 that despite the continued shortage of building materials like iron, steel and cement, the Government had decided to allow the construction of a few more cinema theatres in Greater Bombay "having regard to the needs of the increased population of the city and the persistent demand for additional theatres."

The Chief Minister stated there were 46 cinema theatres in Greater Bombay, excluding suburbs, before the last war. **There were now 70 cinema theatres in the city.** Mr. Desai said that duridg the last few years, applications for the construction of cinema theatres or for the renovation of the existing theatres in Bombay were rejected owing to scarcity of building materials.

Bombay's First Open Air Theatre

Minister for Education, Mr. Dinkarrao Desai, declared open Bombay's first open-air theatre in the grounds of the Elphinstone Technical School on October 27. Rang Bhavan, as the theatre has been named, has been constructed by the State Government at a cost of Rs. 2 lakhs and will have a seating capacity of more than 3,000. The Minister said the State Government had undertaken a plan to open such theatres all over the State out of the receipts of entertainment duty on dramatic performances.

LANDSCAPING CHANDIGARH*

By M. S. Randhawa, I. C. S.

On an area of 15 square miles on a plateau 1,300 feet above sea level, with the Sivalik hill and the blue Kasauli hills in the background, stands Chandigarh, the capital of the Punjab. The City has been built on a unique plan, initially prepared by Albert Meyer, and subsequently improved upon by Corbusier.

On the site where the new Capital of the Punjab was to be built, there were but a few clumps of trees, but Chandigarh needed to be clothed in green in keeping with the ideals with which the City was planned.

The sun, space and verdure are the ancient influences which have fashioned man's body and mind, and in search of these, man drifts from the ancient town to establish himself in a garden suburb, but before long the garden town develops and expands, reducing the outskirts of the town to miserable shabbiness. The promised seclusion thus becomes a crowded settlement.

Corbusier thought that the real solution lay in the building of vertical garden city, in which the superimposed buildings rise above the park, containing amenities such as sports grounds, creches and clubs. By the concentration of a large number of dwellings in one building, considerable area of open ground is liberated, and the site is effectively enlarged to merge with the surrounding countryside. Avenues of trees, three to five thick, provide green walls, and the grouping of trees in the form of rectangles, squares and circles creates green rooms.

In Chandigarh, the ideal of the garden city has been partially accepted in the sense that residential buildings are double-storeyed, while office buildings are multi-storeyed.

The site of the young City was practically bare, with the exception of few clumps of mango fields. Chandigarh had to be clothed in a mantle of vegetation. Hence, the State Government constituted a Landscape Committee, with the writer as chairman and engineers and architects of the Chandigarh Project as members. Corbusier suggested the preparation of a chart showing shapes of trees and colour of flowers. The chart that was prepared gave a classification of selected, beautiful ornamental flowering and foliage trees of India, and provided the basis of tree-planting in Chandigarh.

Landscaping and tree-planting in the City involved three elementes: the urbanistic elements requiring tree-planting; selection of trees and their classification according to the shape of the crown and colour of flowers; and the manner and arrangement of trees. The urban elements affected by tree-planting were the roads, urban spaces with elements of architecture such as the Capitol, the University, and commercial centres and free urban spaces. Trees were planted in single rows, double rows or in multiple rows. In the green belts and other free urban spaces, the trees were planted singly, in homogeneous groups, in heterogeneous groups or in large forest plantations.

The base of the City Plan is a rectangular grid of heavy traffic roads enclosing the self-contained neighbourhoods or sectors. The road and sector system separates the vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The sectors are inter-connected by the shopping street running across, and by park belts, lengthwise. The pedestrian can thus traverse the City in both directions without walking on the major traffic streets. The fast-moving traffic is restricted to the rectangular grid of heavy

*From the *Indian Horticulture*, October, 1956.

traffic roads which are designated V2 and V3. These roads are at the outer sides of the sectors. Inside the sectors, protected from fast traffic, are the V4, V5, V6 and V7, which provide access to the houses, shopping centres, schools, hospitals, etc.

The avenue of the Capitol consists of a heavy traffic automobile highway with a parallel band for parking, a large pavement on each side with shops and arcades and high buildings. Also outside this and parallel to it is the eroded valley. This road has been planted with green grass and ornamental shrubs like bougainvillaea. Footpaths which are provided at the sides for pedestrians are shaded by four to five rows of trees.

On the one hand, it seemed useful to demarcate the automobile highway by a border of high trees and on the other, to unite with one glance the entire width of the avenue in question, the shops, pedestrians, parking cars and the localized contacts with the eroded valley and the leisure space. It was equally necessary to cover the pedestrian promenade with shade along the shops.

For the car route, single or double row of trees with high foliage will permit the eye to travel across. This will be with trees of light and evergreen foliage to avoid the need for sweeping.

For pedestrians, a multiple row of trees with very heavy deciduous foliage is required so that the sun's rays may pass through in winter. There must also be some evergreen trees with dark and glistening foliage.

This arrangement will contrast the height, the thickness, the colours and the permanency of the foliage, and will explain the various functions of this essential artery of the City.

For roadside avenues along V4 roads, trees which provide shade and are also beautiful have been selected. Trees with a regular shape such as cypresses, Lombardy poplar, asoka and chorisia are suitable for formal planting schemes. On interior roads where the shape of the crown is not so important, trees with beautiful flowers and foliage such as kachnar, jacaranda, coral tree, amaltas, gul mohur, pink cassia, silver oak, and Pride of India have been planted.

The countryside with these trees will be interesting and pleasant in all the months of the year.

In summer, the trees will provide shade, and in winter sunshine, as the deciduous trees will permit the sun's rays to pass.

Ample areas have been provided for parks in the Master Plan of the Capital. For these parks, informal planting has been adopted. Interior belts with their continuous flow combine with the outer green belts to give a verdant feeling to the whole city. They also give a sense of direction and dramatically culminate in the Capitol. Facing the parks are building groups such as the Public Library, Art Gallery, Museum and the Girls' College. There are narrow greenways connecting major parks, and an area of 75 acres has been allowed for a zoological garden, and 100 acres for botanical gardens.

Apart from preservation of old trees, beautiful effects have been created by planting trees in groups. Trees have been planted in the form of squares and circles, and the rest have been planted in clumps in such a manner that the tallest trees are in the middle and the smaller trees and at the periphery, thus creating pyramids of greenery. Groups of ougeinia, pink cassia, jacaranda, callistemon, amaltas, Pagoda tree, asoka, langerstroemia, double-flowering peach and cherry have been planted in this manner. Bamboos are particularly suitable for this type of planting. Bamboos are of various types—giant bamboos, dwarf bamboos, thick bamboos, thin bamboos and green, yellow and striped bamboos. Clumps of various varieties of bamboo in due course will lend a great charm to the parks and open places of Chandigarh.

At the bottom of man's heart reigns his boundless yearning for the primordial forest. In the forest, man is brought in contact with his ancestral environment.

The deep shade and silence of the forest provide an opportunity for introspection and meditation, and one forgets the worries of life. Trees realize their personality, and perform their duty only when they are planted in numbers. This is particularly true of trees like eucalyptus, kadamba, chir pine and the yellow siris. A row of eucalyptus trees appears miserable, and one gets a feelnig that something is missing and the planting is incomplete. Plant them in large numbers, and see what a beautiful effect they create. Then, at once, everything is transformed, sky and light recover their first deep meaning, and an oasis of coolness, silence and shade is created. Some of the parks in Chandigarh were planted exclusively with forests of the chir pine, eucalyptus, kadamba and the yellow siris (Albizzia procera). These are all giant trees which are gregarious, and when grown in large numbers, create a beautiful effect.

The cathedral-like alignment of the shafts of chir pines shooting towards the sky, smooth, pure and inflexible, with their round and plump crowns, is a reminder of the Himalayan forests with their peace and silence. Kadamba groves with their silence and perfume remind us of the happy forests of Vrindavan where Krishna roamed with the milk maidens, and no doubt that they will provide the gladness and freshness of the rainy season to the citizens of Chandigarh. Forests of yellow siris with their smooth, light yellow and barkless boles, emit a strange goldenlight ; there is a warm and russet glow at their base, and blue ethereal mist covers their top.

The Capitol group of buildings which consists of the Governor's House, the High Court, the Legislative Assembly and the Secretariat is spread out in a 250-acre enclave, at the foot of the Sivalik Hills. Located at the head of the site which is gently sloping, it carries an air of detachment and dignity. For planting on the Capitol site, many forms of trees are contemplated. The existing trees, mostly mango, whether isolated or in groups, have been maintained. The Governor's private garden would contain a garden with trees of all types, colours, shapes and heights which would be arranged in a picturesque manner. All the varieties which have been selected are beautiful, and there would be colour in all the seasons.

With the earth removed from the excavated ground from the Capitol site, artificial mountains would be created. These hillocks will create a play of forms with the buildings of the Capitol, and will be covered with evergreen trees of different types. In certain parts of the Capitol, the horizon will be shut off by green walls of trees in the form of circles, squares and rectangles.

Before the towns arose, there were groves of trees, meadows, moving horizons, hills, mountains, rivers and lakes. By building disorderly piles of houses, many beautiful views have been obscured. This has been avoided in Chandigarh by staggering the siting of houses in such a manner that the mountain view is not obscured even at the ground level. Trees have heen carefully chosen with due regard to colour of flowers, beauty of foliage and shape of crown. In addition to utilitarian and aesthetic aspects, trees in city areas constitute an effective buffer against dust and noise, and also act as wind-breakers. Moreover, when planted properly they link up individual masses of buildings in a harmonious whole, and enhance their architectural appeal by presenting a foil of texture, colour and form by way of contrasts.

Chandigarh is one of the most carefully planted cities of the world. When the trees grow up, the residential areas will be brightened up by masses of blossoms. In the hot months of summer, heavy masses of dark green leaves will provide a refreshing shade. Under the shadow of the blue mountains of the Kasauli range, the great blocks of buildings stand shaded by the green walls of trees, the true friends of man. From the top of the buildings the vast horizon is seen, providing a play of colours throughout the seasons. In the monsoon, which is the most pleasant season in Chandigarh,

(*Continued on next page*)

Horticulture To Make India Beautiful

The Maharaja of Patiala inaugurated the Horticulture Society of India in New Delhi on October 25. He said horticulture was as important to India as agriculture, and asked horticulturists to go to the villages and demonstrate to the farmers the best horticultural methods. There should be flower beds and vegetable growing plots, he said, in every school. He felt that a practical approach to the problem was necessary, and deplored that research institutions were preoccupied with work in the agricultural sphere and did very little for horticulture.

In his presidential address, Dr. C. K. Naik said a national plan should be framed and implemented to encourage horticulture. He urged that horticulture should be popularized to eliminate malnutrition and make India a beautiful land. There was an acute shortage of personnel in the field of horticulture with the result that horticulture institutions did not have sufficient qualified men, Dr. Naik added.

I. C. A. R. Horticulture Committee

The I. C. A. R. Horticultural Committee in its four-day session, which concluded in New Delhi on October 25, examined the schemes of division of India into five horticultural zones and fundamental research to establish relationship between various groups and cropping features of horticultural produce as affected by irrigation and nutrition. At persent little information is available on such foundamental aspects as water and manurial requirements of important fruit crops.

Goats : Biggest Enemies of Vegetation

The Uttar Pradesh Board of Animal Husbandry on October 6 decided that mass destruction of goats by legislation was not the proper solution to the problem of devastation of vegetation by these animals. A proposal for liquidating the entire goat population of North India was circulated recently to the State Governments for opinion by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The proposal was aimed at checking aridity in North India for which goats, more than any other pest, are held responsible. The immense destruction of vegetation caused by goats, the Council held, contributed substantially to the aridity of Rajasthan. Even in other States, goats posed a serious problem to cultivators.

New York City Has Over Two Million Trees

According to a survey made by the Statisticians of the Department of Parks, New York City has 2,282,000 trees under the care of its Parks Department. Of these, 1,746,000 are in parks, playgrounds, parkways and experessways, and 536,000 line city streets.

The Department of Parks has altogether 272 "climbers and pruners," which comes to one man for every 8,446 trees. The care and protection of 2,282,000 trees, no mean task in itself, is further complicated by other factors. Many varieties of trees do not thrive in gasolene fumes, soot and other inconveniences of city living. Nature also takes its toll in the form of blights, insects and diseases. Nowithstanding these obvious handicaps, the Department of Parks with the help of private citizens, organizations, and other government agencies, continues to work for the beauty of New York by pursuing its tree-planting programme.

(Continued from Previous page)

clouds appear in all directions ; they are raining in the east, their dark masses are visible in the south and the scarlet of the setting sun in tinging the horizon in the west. The green domes of pipal and mango trees which have been retained, provide a touch of the country. Thus, we find in Chandigarh that the town and the country are blended, the marriage of the tree and the building has taken place ; the result is harmony, and the link of nature and man is established.

Architects and Second Plan

Mr. G. B. Mhatre, President of the Indian Institute of Architects, in his address at a meeting of the Institute in Bombay on October 11, appealed to the Government of India to give the Indian architect "his rightful place" in the scheme for executing the Second Five-Year Plan.

Stating that the institute had already offered its co-operation to the Planning Commission, Mr. Mhatre hoped that the institute would be taken into its confidence by the Government and that it would utilise the services of Indian architects "whether for planning industrial development, planning of townships or of technical education."

Referring to the problem of architectural education in India, Mr. Mhatre stressed the need for establishing a single authority, an All-India University of Architecture, exercising wide powers "not only over curriculum and conduct of examinations, but also having the authority to conduct periodical inspection of the management of institutions imparting instruction in architecture and the teaching imparted by them, their general working and maintenance."

Modern Trends In Architecture

Speaking at a symposium on modern trends in architecture organized by the Rotary Club of Delhi on October 4, Mr. N. B. Shroff, Architect of the Railway Board, said that it was not proper to imitate or reproduce traditional architecture or prototypes of buildings of other countries.

It was necessary, he added, to evolve a new architecture which was a natural outcome of the present day conditions and which belonged to the soil. He hoped India would be able to produce something outstanding in this sphere. The typical features of Indian architecture such as overhanging balconies should be retained.

The modern building was not a mere shell, but a highly functional and complicated instrument and its designing was a complex process. Scientific and industrial developments had changed social and economic conditions and this change was reflected in the architecture of all countries. Sculpture and mural paintings should form an integral part of the designs of buildings as art in architecture was important.

He said that prefabrication of houses had not yet developed in India, but with industrialization, it was bound to be used.

India had great traditions in architectural masterpieces and the Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim and British periods had influenced building styles in the country. The air-conditioning plant industry had great scope in India if the equipment was cheaply manufactured and made available for extensive use, Mr. Shroff said.

Mr. S. K. Joglelkar. Chief Architect of the Central PWD, said that the right use of building materials was essential for creating good building styles. Concrete, which was a useful material, was being misused and its tremendous potentialities had yet to be realized.

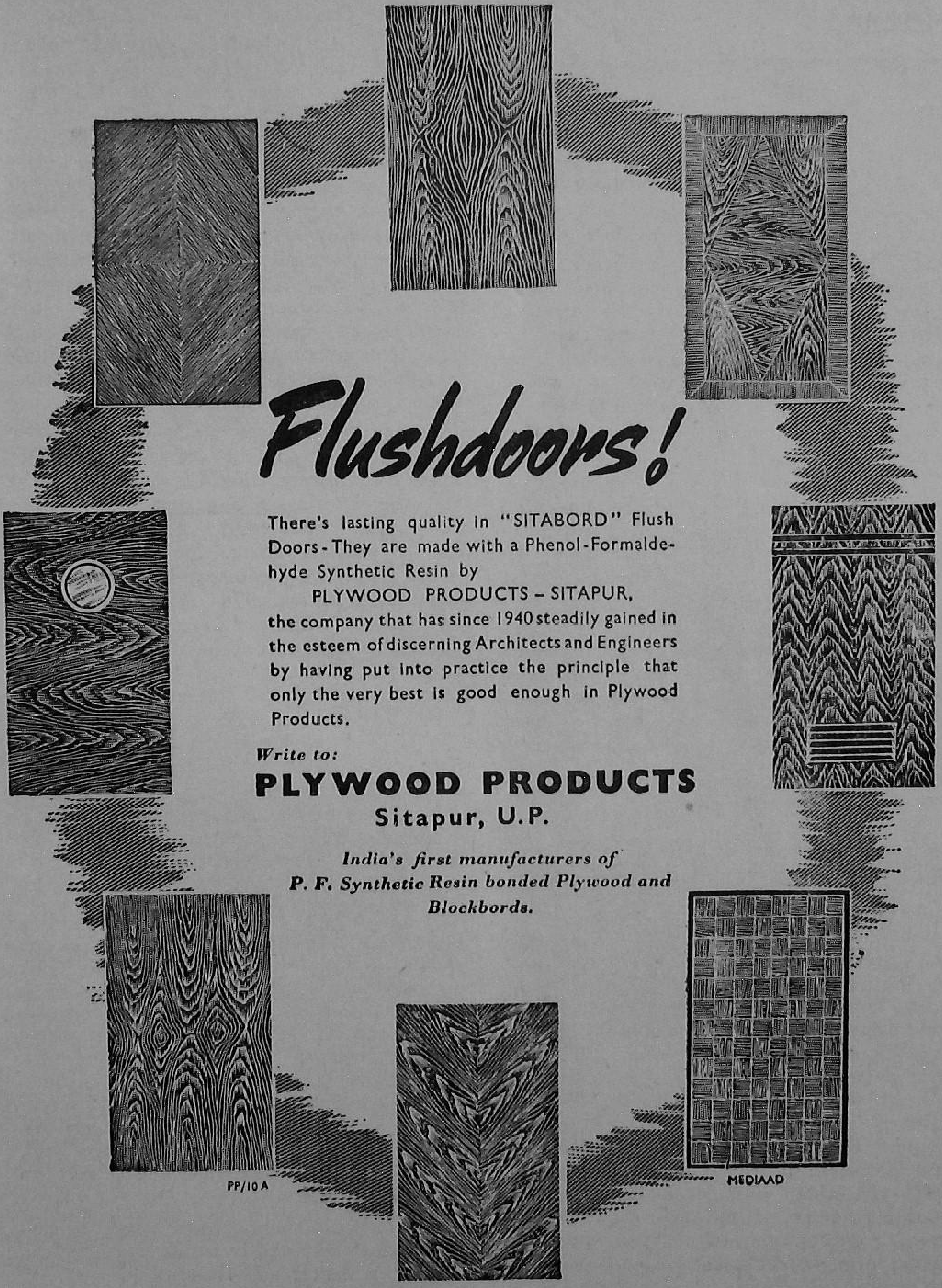
Mr. T. R. Mahindru, a private architect, deplored the tendency to copy Western architecture although climatic conditions were different in India.

Gandhi Memorial In Cape Comorin

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, opened the Gandhi Memorial at Cape Comorin on October 31. Built at a cost of Rs. 2 lakhs, the 60-ft-high memorial is an admixture of the Hindu Buddhist, and Islamic architectures. It has been erected at the confluence of the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. It marks the spot, where a part of the ashes of Gandhiji was immersed eight years ago.

Cracks in Rs. 100 Lakhs Building

More than a dozen cracks appeared in the new five-storeyed building of the Reserve Bank of India in New Delhi as a result of the earthquake on October 10. The building, which was completed recently, cost the Bank more than Rs. 100 lakhs.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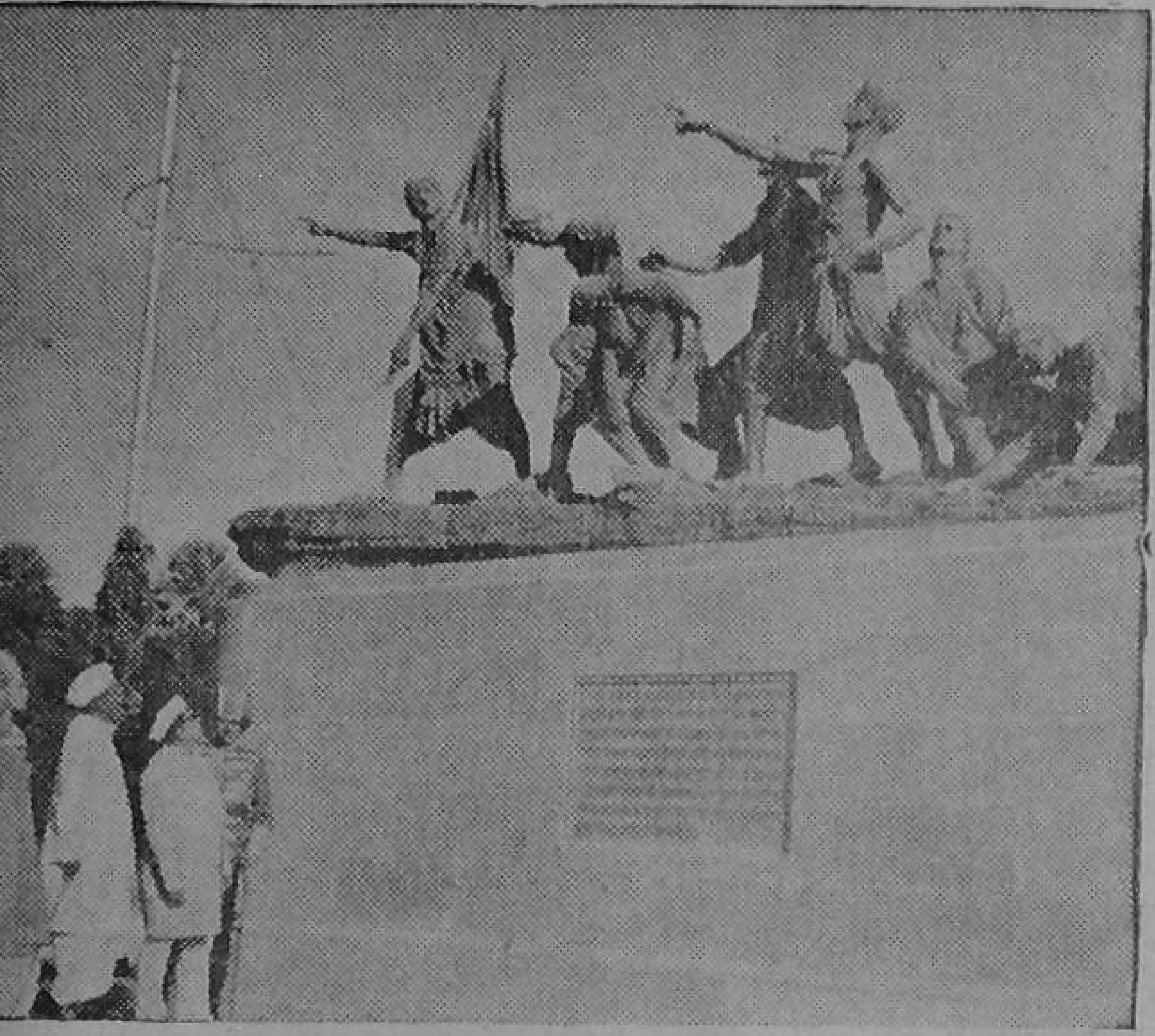


BIHAR MARTYRS' MEMORIAL

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, is seen inspecting the Martyrs' Memorial. On his left is Shri R. R. Diwakar, Governor of Bihar.

World's Biggest Group Composition In Bronze

Dr. Rajendra Prasad on October 24 unveilled the martyrs memorial, erected in front of the Patna Secretariat, in honour of Seven young men who were killed in police firing while attempting to unfurl the Tri-Colour on the secretariat building on August 11, 1942. Made by the renowed Indian sculptor, Mr. Devi Prasad Roy Choudhury, the memorial depicts in bronze seven life-size young men marching with grim determination towards the Secretariat to hoist the Tri-Colour, held aloft by the leader of the group. The seven statues, weighing about three tons each, are installed on a 20-foot high pedestrial. The memorial, which cost about Rs. 3 lakhs, took 20 months to complete and is the biggest group composition in bronze, of the human form, in Asia and probably in the world.

(Continued from page 27)

Chief Minister Refutes Corruption Charges

Replying to the debate on the demands for supplementary grants in the State Assembly on October 10, the Chief Minister, Dr. Sampurnanand criticised the Opposition for making sweeping corruption charge against Government officials. He took exception to the sweeping generalisations made by some opposition members regarding corruption among Government servants. These Government employees represented a cross-section of society and he was not prepared to accept that they were mostly corrupt. He said that making such a charge again and again would produce an adverse effect.

Complaints Officers' Work

With regard to the complaints against Complaint Officers, the Chief Minister said that the experiment had been tried for six months only and he felt that it had a salutary effect. He revealed that up to August 31, complaints against 3,682 police officials and 576 officials of other departments had been received. Inquiries were made against 3,614 persons so far and of these 1,017 were found to be correct. Cases against 30 sub-inspectors of police, 12 head constables, 102 constables and 46 officials of other departments were pending while departmental action was taken against two circle inspectors, 16 sub-inspectors, 92 head constables, 378 constables and 132 persons of other departments. This, he claimed, was not a bad record. The Complaint Officers, he added, did not entertain complaints against gazetted officers.

Governor's Entertainment Allowance

The Chief Minister did not feel there was anything irregular about the Governor's entertainment allowance. The guests who stayed at Government House were not his personal guests but state guests. If the Governor was also to pay income-tax on account of his Rs. 19,000 allowance he would have actually received only Rs. 5,000. The same arrangement, he said, existed at the Union Government and in the other States.

The confusion about purchasing of cars under tools, plants and livestock was technicai. It was a matter of accounting.

Rapid Civic Expansion In Kanpur

Preparing For A Municipal Corporation

By **G. R. Bhagwat,**

Public Relations Officer, Kanpur Civic Administration.

Rapid strides towards the development and expansion of the industrial metropolis of Northern India, Kanpur city and its suburbs, have been made by the city's Development Board during the past three years. The construction of 10,000 houses for the city's industrial labour in Bapupurwa, Hariharnath Shastri Nagar, Old Kanpur and Govindnagar through loans provided by the Government of India has taken place during this period, and a phased programme of similar construction during the Second Five Year Plan is already under way. It is proposed to spend Rs. 50 lakhs on this work during the current financial year, and to construct houses over the sites of slums whithin the city limits, several of which have already been razed to the ground.

Prime Minister's Historic Words

This large housing programme, the biggest single enterprise of such a magnitude to be taken up anywhere in India followed the now famous, historic condemnation of Kanpur slums by the Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in February, 1952 It has very materially helped to open up the city and encourage a steady movement of population, other than industrial labour, into the newly developed areas.

Other factors contributing to the movement are the shifting of some Government offices like the Directorate of Industries and location of new ones like the Employment Exchange, the Department of Labour etc. to the new areas. The Indian Institute of Sugar Technology is shortly to move to a site near Kallanpur, midway between Kanpur and the historic town of Bithur or Brahmawarta.

Eastern Green Belt Scheme

The Eastern Green Belt Scheme towards Jajmau is being developed, and will have the city's new industrial area fringing it. A good portion of Kanpur's industrial labour population will be accommodated in this area eventually.

Boundaries Expanded

The Government of Uttar Pradesh through a recent notification extended the application of the Kanpur Urban Area Development Act (through and under which the Kanpur Development Board functions) to Bithur and Sarsaul, each of which is ten miles from Kanpur. This is intended to ensure a balanced, planned development of Greater Kanpur according to the Master Plan drawn up some years back and under active implementation since.

Water Supply & Sewage Disposal

A comprehensive water-supply and sewerage reorganization scheme is already under way, estimated to cost over Rs. 3 crores. It proposes to supply about 60 million gallons of filtered pipe-water for Greater Kanpur every day, to an estimated population of 15 lakhs, and to canalize the city's refuse through a gigantic sewer system 27 miles in length, for fertilizing and irrigation 15,000 acres of

(*Continued on next page*)

The Agriculture College Lake—one of the all too rare beauty spots in Kanpur.

Chandigarh Will Cost Rs. 22.5 Crores

The Punjab Government will spend about Rs. 10.5 crores during the next three years on the construction of Chandigarh. Out of a total provision of Rs. 22.5 crores for the construction of the capital, the Government has so far spent Rs. 12.5 crores on the construction of office buildings, residential houses and provision of amenities such as roads, water supply and sewerage, during the first Five-Year Plan.

The capital, which has been planned for a population of five lakhs, will provide accommodation for a population of 1.5 lakhs in the first phase of its development. Under the present plan, an area of 1,732 acres comprising 20,251 plots has been provided for residential purposes, 289 acres for commercial establishments and 580 acres for industrial purposes.

Since 1951-52, when real work on the project started, the tempo of construction activity has been steadly rising. As against Rs. 78 lakhs spent in 1951-52, Rs. 197 lakhs were spent in 1952-53, Rs. 308 lakhs in 1953-54 and Rs. 287 lakhs in 1954-55.

The nine-storeyed Secretariat building, which is under construction, is expected to be completed in the beginning of 1957.

The new buildings to be constructed during the next few years are the Government House, Assembly Chamber, university enclave and colleges for boys and girls, besides residential houses and recreational centres.

Another ambitious scheme on way to completion is the construction of an artificial lake by building a dam on Sukhna Cho, skirting two sides of the State capital.

Capital Project Administrator

Mr. P. L. Verma, Chief Administrator of the Chandigarh Capital Project and Secretary to the Punjab Government in the Public Works Department, has been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission. Mr. Verma has been the Chief Administrator of the Chandigarh Project for the past seven years.

(*Continued from previous page*)

usar and agricultural land, and entirely eliminating the pollution of the holy Ganges which at present becomes contaminated down stream through the discharge. The city's water supply is distributed through a system of zone pumping stations which help to maintain uniform pressure to the areas served by them.

Municipal Bus Service

The city's suburbs are linked with it by a bus service which also serves the internal city through a fleet of 60 buses. The system is entirely owned and operated by Development Board, and is undergoing expansion.

Croporation Building

Within the next few years Kanpur city is to have a Municipal Corporation, and it has been decided to commence the construction of its proposed Rs. 25 lakh building very shortly. The site is a 35 acre piece of land within the Waterworks compound in the midst of pleasing surroundings. The foundation stone of the Corporation Building will be laid according to present plan, on the Republic Day early in 1957.

Delhi's Worst Water Crisis

The entire urban area of India's Capital—Delhi and New Delhi — was seized of the worst ever water famine on October 24 morning when all the pumping of raw water at the Wazirabad Pumping Stations was stopped. The pumping was stopped by the Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board at 9 A. M. as engineers noticed the intake pumps were bringing in sullage instead of water. The city's 16 lakhs people were taken unawares as the taps gradually thinned and went completely dry at about 10 A. M. because there was no prior warning.

Press reports published on October 20 had said that the bacteriological test of the samples of filtered water taken on October 16 had shown that there was no bacterial contamination. The Director of Health Services, Delhi State, had said that test of raw water supply at the Wazirabad intake water-works showed on October 18 that excess of chlorides and nitrates continued to be noticeable. The public was advised to continue boiling tap water before use. In the meantime, intensive measures for water purification were being continued.

The Directorate of Health Services, on October 10 had warned residents of Kalkaji and Malviya Nagar and parts of Lajpat Nagar not to drink water supplied by the Okhla water works, without boiling it because it was contaminated.

The worst yet water crisis in Delhi's history, however, was overcome on October 25 through the combined efforts of the Army and civil engineers. While 12 Army bulldozers, which worked round the clock for several days, succeeded in deepening the channel from the main current of the Jamuna to the intake pumps, thousands of labourers blocked the Najafgarh Nullah at two points and thus temporarily stopped the Ganda nullah water entering the river near the Wazirabad pumping station. Water supply for six hours was resumed in the city and New Delhi on the same day. On October 25 five of eight pumps at the pumping station were working and water was being pumped at the rate of 45 million gallons a day as against the normal pumping of 53 million gallons.

The supply of water was stopped not because there was a scarcity; but because contamination would have affected the health of the people.

Health Minister's Visit

The Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, and the Deputy Health Minister, Mrs. C. Chandrasekhara, also visited the Wazirabad pumping station, when Maj-Gen. U. C. Dubey, GOC, Delhi Area, who was in charge of all operations there, explained to the Health Minister the work being done by the Army engineers.

There was a remarkable improvement in Delhi's water supply on October 26 and the supply was continued throughout the day instead of eight hours as originally announced by the authorities.

Mr. R. S. Mehta, Engineer-Secretary of the Joint Water and Sewage Board, said most of the pumps at the intake works were now working and water was being pumped at the rate of 48 million gallons a day against a normal pumping of 53 million gallons. Chemical tests showed that the quality of raw water near the intake works was normal.

Army's Help

Lt.-Col. C. N. Lakshmanan of the Army Engineers, who was commanding the operations, said that 38 Army personnel were manning 10 bulldozers and two excavators, whose job it was to cut and deepen the channal leading from the main current of the river to the intake works. Some of the operators had been flown from Gwalior as they were short of operators in Delhi.

D. M. C. Criticism

The Delhi Municipal Committee at its meeting on October 24 held the Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board responsible for not preventing the contamination of water in the city. Most of the members

thought that if the Board had been vigilant there would have been no contamination and the "worst ever" water scarcity experienced on October 24 would have been avoided.

Mr. R. N. Agrawal, President of the Committee, said that he and the Medical Officer of Health had visited the Wazirabad pumping station that very day and met Mr. R. S. Mehta, Engineer Secretary, Joint Water and Sewage Board, and Mr. Modak, Special Engineer, Union Ministry of Health, who had told him that the water had been contaminated.

Some of the members also blamed the Delhi Municipal Committee and said that it had not carried out last year's decision to instal hand pumps in the city. It was suggested that the Committee's representation on the Sewage Board should he withdrawn as a protest. Mr. R. N. Khanna, Committee's representative on the Board said that he had been assured but this year there was no chance of the familiar trouble re-occurring. One member criticised the Union Ministry of Health which, he said, shared the responsibility of supplying pure and wholesome drinking water.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned for five minutes on the suggestion of the Vice-President, Mr. Daroga Mal, as a mark of protest against the attitude of the authorities resulting in the breakdown of the water supply. It was decided that a deputation representing all political parties in the Committee should meet Mr. A. D. Pandit, Delhi's Chief Commissioner to lodge a protest.

C. P. I.'s Criticism

Mr. Ajoy Ghosh, General Secretary of the Communist Party of India, on October 25 criticised the Union Health MInistry for its inability to supply adequate clean water to the people of Delhi. Mr. Ghosh regretted that the water was contaminated on the eve of the UNESCO conference for which delegates were beginning to arrive and when more than 1,500 students from all over India were in the capital for the Youth Festival. He suggested the need for a catchment area and diversion of the sewage water from the Najafgarh nullah to Kilokri and Okhla.

The Delhi State Committee of the Communist Party of India the same day passed a resolution demanding the "resignation" of the Union Health Minister and the dismissal of the Secretary of the Joint Water and Sewage Board for "giving false assurances" in connection with the water supply in the capital.

The resolution demanded that the Board should be placed immediately under the charge of the Delhi Municipal Committee to ensure co-ordination between the two bodies. Such a step was essential "to bring the Board under popular control".

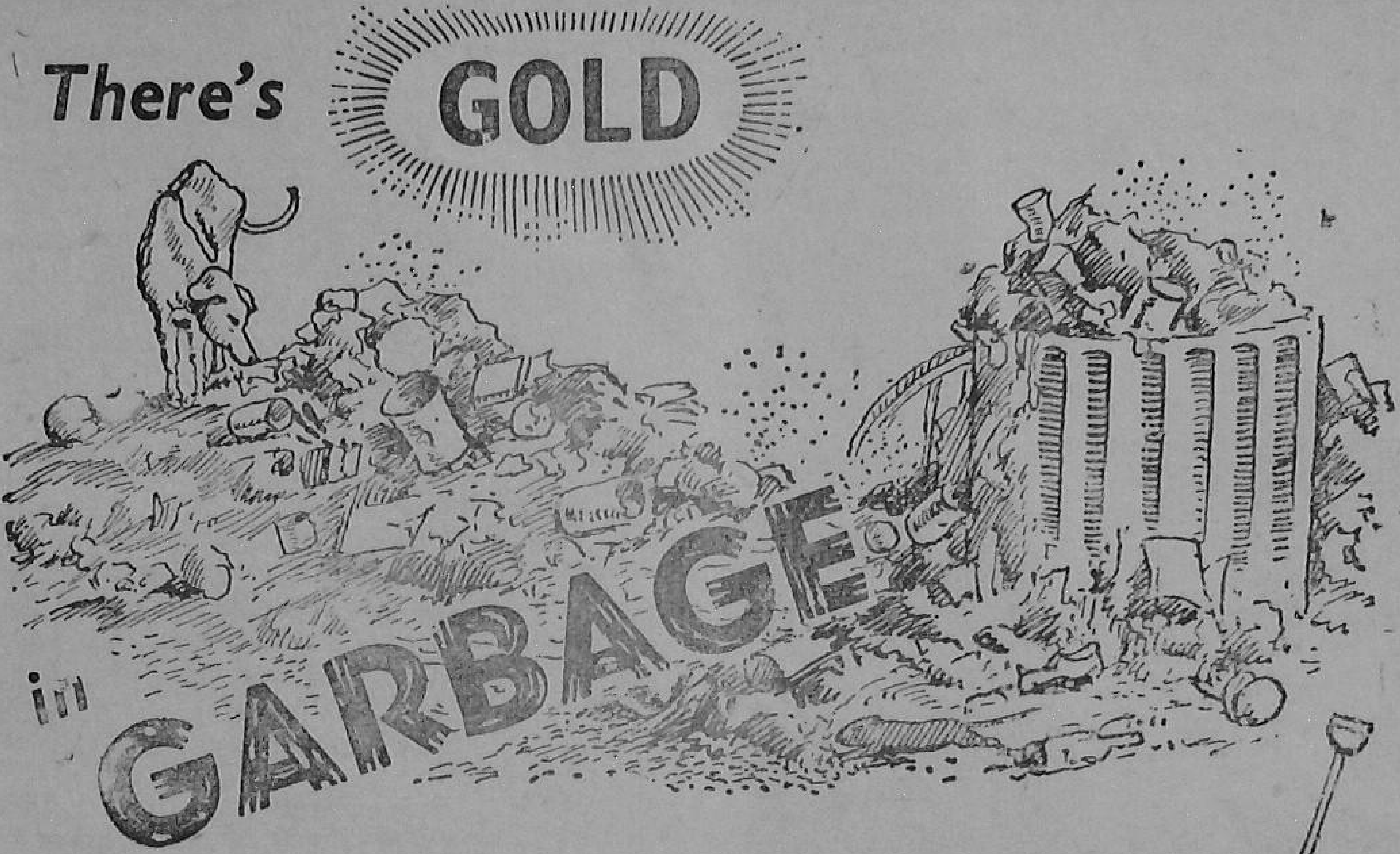
Prime Minister Defends Officials

The Prime Minister, at his Press conference on October 25, expressed concern over the water supply situation in Delhi. He said it was easy to criticise officials and others — and, may be, the officials deserved it — but the floods had upset all the normal arrangements. It might be possible to have some foolproof arrangements but it was "rather difficult to fight against Nature."

Plans For Future

Mr. A. D. Pandit, Delhi State Chief Commissioner, in his address to the sixth annual general meeting of the Delhi Chamber of Commerce on October 24, said the floods that had nearly overwhelmed the city a few das ago, had again created difficulties at the intake pumping station and expressed the fear that unless permanent measures for keeping the pumping station supplied with water throughout the year could be devised by engineers, the present difficulties would recur. Mr. Pandit added that in the Second Five-Year Plan it was proposed not only to get water from the Western Jamuna Canal as an alternative source of supply but also to augment the present capacity considerably by drawing water from the shallow reservoirs near the Hindon in U. P. Details of this scheme, he that said, were being worked out.

Referring to the contamination of Delhi's water supply, he said with the erection of the Sewage Treatment Plant on Coronation



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Road, the fear of contamination of water should disappear.

Taming of Jamuna : C. W. R. I. Proposals

The Central Water Research Institute, Poona, has recommended to the Delhi Authorities the taming of the Jamuna to ensure a perennial supply of water near the Wazirabad pumping station. The Research Institute experts have suggested construction of spurs upstream to divert the flow of water towards the Wazirabad intake works. They have also recommended the remodelling of the bank at the Wazirabad pumping station and construction of a weir downstream to conserve water in the intake works area. The experts have made the recommendations after studying a large model of the Jamuna to assess the tendency of the river. The model cost nearly Rs. 60,000 to build. On the basis of the recommendations made by the experts, estimates of the cost of the scheme are now being prepared by the Delhi authorities.

The Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board authorities are expecting to finally divert the Najafgarh nullah 3,000 feet downstream by the end of December this year. The Najafgarh nullah was originally a storm water nullah but with the expansion of the Delhi urban area the sullage from new townships such as Tihar, Tilak Nagar, Ramesh Nagar, Najafgarh Industrial Area, and part of Sabzimandi has polluted it. The high percentage of chlorides in this nullah is due to the disposal in it of chemical waste from the industrial area. When an underground sewage system is installed in the area lying along the Najafgrah nullah, the contamination will be considerably reduced.

Himachal Pradesh Water Supply Bill

The Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha on October 17 passed the Water Supply (Amendment) Bill. The Bill provides for the installation of modern water supplies in towns and villages throughout the State. In the first instance the State Government will incur the entire capital cost of new schemes and the entire replacement cost of existing systems. But later on 25% and 12/½% of the cost will be recovered respectively from beneficiaries in the urban and rural areas in the form of water rates which will not exceed Re. 1 per 1,000 gallons for domestic purposes and Rs. 2 for 1,000 gallons for commercial use. The rates for pipe water would be double.

If a local body decides to pay the beneficiaries share, it will be given charge of the scheme and it shall then levy its own water rate subject to the maximum limit fixed in the Bill. However, if a local body fails to fulfil its duties efficiently, the State Government can take back the system.

Coimbatore Water Supply

The Coimbatore Municipality proposes to construct an additional reservoir costing Rs. 100 lakhs near the Siruvani reservoir. With a capacity of 425 million cubic feet of water, it will be bounded by a dam 592 feet long and 138 feet high. It will meet the needs of a total population of 400,000 in this industrial city.

Studying Ways To Check Water Losses

A four-man delegation will visit Australia to study the success of measures to reduce water losses due to evaporation and seepage.

West Pakistan's Water Supply

Mr. P. Lenk-Chevitch, a Belgian expert working as U. N. adviser to the Central engineering authority in its work for increasing the water supply for Karachi, who had made front-page news in 1954 by discovering new sources of water in Karachi and thereby increasing the city's supply by about 10 per cent., has now found out that in Mohenjo Daro, situated on saline ground, there was no salinity in 2,500 B. C. Salinity, he says, appeared much later, probably about the seventh century A. D. He will soon publish a detailed study of the vital question of slow climatic deterioration in West Pakistan which in turn leads to water shortages.

Mr. Lenk-Chevitch was formerly in charge of hydrological research in the Belgian Congo. He estimates that future developments based on his researches will increase Karachi's water supply by another 25 to 30 per cent. He has located a new underground water body near Karachi which will soon be put to exploitation.

UNICEF Recommends 3m Dollars For Programmes In Asia

The Major Emphasis in the work of the United Nations Children's Fund in Asia has been shifting to maternal and child programmes according to the proposals prepared by UNICEF's Executive Director, Maurice Pate, for the Fund's Executive Board.

Of the suggested 3 million dollar allocation for Asia, maternal and child health programmes will absorb 1,300,000 dollars if the Board accepts the proposals at its two-week meeting opening on 22 October at UN Headquarters.

These programmes have received over one-third of total UNICEF allocations to Asia since the Fund began to operate and have developed steadily from simple supply operations to permanent centres for child care. By June 1956, UNICEF had helped to establish 2,228 such welfare centres in 15 countries of the region, and by the end of 1958 the total is expected to reach 7,450.

Recommendations for aid include supplies and equipment for the children of India, Indonesia, Japan, North Borneo, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand. The report underlines the importance of food and states that **"Asia is still eating about 10 per cent less than before the war... but the situation is slowly improving".**

Anti-Malarial Campaigns

More than 11 per cent of UNICEF's total allocations have been earmarked for the malaria programme, which aims at complete eradication in a number of countries in Asia. In Ceylon all the 5.7 million people living in its malarious areas are under protection, according to the report. Afghanistan will achieve its complete eradication target by the end of 1956.

In India the UNICEF-assisted DDT plant produced about 250 tons of DDT in the first half of 1956 and is expected to attain its maximum producing capacity of about 350 tons in the second half. **India's government "hopes to reach most of the 200 million malarious population" by the end of this year.**

BCG Vaccination

BCG campaigns for vaccination against tuberculosis are now at their peak in 11 countries and have been completed in five others. UNICEF proposes to allocate 204,000 dollars in its 1957 budget **to help India complete the first phase of the world's largest BCG campaign by 1960,** which has a target of 170 million tests. By June 1956, more than 76 million children of India in the susceptible age group had already been tested since the campaign began.

Evaluation of B. C. G.

The U. P. Medical Conference, which concluded its two-day session in Dehra Dun on October 28, passed a resolution urging the State Government to set up a team of specialists to evaluate the results of the protective value of the BCG vaccine.

Rajasthan's Health Fortnight

A "Health Fortnight" was celebrated in 32 Community Development and 37 National Extension Service Blocks in Rajasthan, commencing on October 17. A survey of common diseases and their incidence in the villages in order to prepare a plan for their prevention was made. The State Government appointed an evaluation committee consisting of a professor of a medical college, the Director of Economics and Statistics and the Director of Social Welfare to visit the blocks during the fortnight and to report on the manner in which the Fortnight was organized, its effect on the people and the improvement in the health of under-nourished children.

"Serious" Population Problem of India

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, the Union Health Minister, addressing the first meeting of the Family Planning Board in New Delhi on October 27, said that control of population in India had to be tackled as one of the most serious problems of the time. In spite of all that was being done to improve the standard of living, such improvements were not likely to materialise if there was a concurrent increase of population. She called for a planned and scientific approach to the problems of family life, which, she said, should be the main objective of a national campaign for family planning.

While the application of medical knowledge and social care had lowered the death rate, the birth rate remained fairly constant. Population control by a reduction of the birth rate to the extent necessary to stabilise the population at a level consistent with the requirements of the national economy was, therefore, the only solution, and its achievement depended on the realisation by the people of the need for family limitation on a wide-scale, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur said.

Rs. 497 Lakh Provision in Second Plan

A sum of Rs. 65 lakhs was allocated in the First Five-Year Plan for the family planning programme, while in the Second Plan, a provision of Rs. 497 lakhs had been made for the programme. The Family Planning Board had been set up for the speedy implementation of the programmes under the Second Plan.

In order to effectively direct family planning programmes, the Union Ministry of Health set up this high level Family Planning Board with the Union Health Minister as the Chairman, in September.

Functions

The main functions of the Board will be to advise the Government on the following matters:— Research and studies on inter-relationship between economic, social and population changes, on reproductive patterns, attitudes and motivations affecting the size of the family planning; Educating public opinion on matters of family planning; Advice and necessary service, in family planning as an integral part of the public health activities through hospitals, health centres and clinics; Facilities for the training of personnel in family planning; Formulation of Schemes for the improvement of the health of mothers and children and for bringing about better conditions of family living; Research on and the production of contraceptives; and Literature and periodicals in furtherance of the objectives of the scheme.

The recommendations of the Family Planning Board will be implemented by the Ministry of Health.

2,000 Clinics in Rural Areas

Mr. Maragatham Chandrasekharan, Deputy Minister for Health, informed the Lok Sabha on August 24 that about 2,000 family planning clinics would be opened in the rural areas under the second Plan. A scheme for publicising family planning in rural areas would be finalised within the next three months.

The Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, said family planning work in rural areas would be conducted by woman who knew the psychology of family units there.

West Bengal Study

A family planning and birth-control scheme costing about Rs, 2,40,000 is to be introduced in West Bengal shortly. The scheme, jointly sponsored by the Population Council of America and the Government of India, is the first undertaking of its kind in the East. According to a spokesman of the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, the three-year-scheme will aim at studying the attitude of the people to family planning and teach them simple methods of birth-control.

Rs. 12 Crores For U.P. Bridges

The Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 12 crores for the construction of a number of bridges on national highways in U.P. during the second Plan period. Among bridges proposed to be taken up with the help of the Government of India grant, are two on the Jamuna at Agra and Kalpi and two on the Ghagra at Ayodhya and Dehrighat. A bridge on the Rapti at Gorakhpur and another on the Gomti at Mohanghat in Ghazipur are also proposed to be constructed.

Sone River Bridge Completed

Mr. Ram Murti, Deputy Minister for Irrigation, informed the State Vidhan Sabha on October 23, that Rs. 50 lakh Chopan Bridge over the River Sone has now been completed. Limited traffic was also passing over the bridge. Due to the early floods in the Sone in June, the last span of this bridge, just then completed, had fallen. The loss had to be borne by the contractor.

The Irrigation Minister, Mr. Kamlapathi Tripathi, said that **the bridge was the longest of its kind made in India.**

Ganga Bridge Construction

Engineers of the Ganga Bridge Project near Mokameh, in Bihar, are now engaged in brisk preparations for sinking the well oundations of seven piers this winter.

Plans are also ready and material is being collected for other important works connected with the bridge. The construction of a broad and metre gauge transhipment and marshalling yard for handling 500 broad gauge and over 1,000 meter gauge wagons daily is being taken in hand. Nearly 13,000 tons of steel required for girders are being imported from the United Kingdom.

Hindustan-Tibet Road

Mr. Gauri Prasad, Public Works Minister, told the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha on October 17, that in the last five years Rs. 8,15,666 had been spent on construction of the Hindusthan-Tibet Road. So far 100 miles of the road had been motorable and 30 miles jeepable. This year Rs. 35 lakhs had been earmarked for the maintenance and repair of the road, he added.

National Highways in J. & K.

Yuvraj Karan Singh, Sadr-i-Riyast of Kashmir, while performing the opening ceremony of the newly-constructed bridge over the Jhelum in Srinagar on October 24, said that Rs. 4 crore 60 lakhs would be spent during the second Plan period on the development of national highways from pathankot to Srinagar. Besides, Rs. 5 crore 30 lakhs would be spent on developing roads in the State.

Highest Road In World

About 3,500 labourers are working daily on the construction of a jeepable road linking Srinagar with Leh, the principal town of Ladakh. The road, estimated to cost Rs. 77 lakhs, will probably be the highest in the world. It would be completed by June, 1957.

One of the world's most unusual railroads is in the mountains of Ecuador. Its 228-mile track climbs from the port city of Guayaquil, 30 feet above sea level, to the capital city of Quito, which is at an altitude of 9,300 feet.

INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION

Mr. W. G. Kennedy, General Secretary of the London office of the International Road Federation, said in New Delhi on October 23, **roads were vital to India, especially rural India, and it was good that the country's Five-Year Plan gave adequate importance to road development.**

Explaining the aims of the I. R. F. he said it was a world body, non-political and non-profit-making composed of industrial and commercial road-users. It emphasized the economic and social value of roads to a country and persuaded the Governments to encourage road development.

The Indian branch of the association by conducting two pilot surveys in Bombay State had proved how good roads promoted economy by reducing the cost of operating vehicles by nearly 16 per cent. He said road development was important to India to bring its cities and villages closer economically and culturally.

I. R. F. also realizes the need to develop road transport and make the fullest use of the existing transport facilities. Excessive taxation of motor vehicles (which was seven times more than in the U. S. A.), restrictions on vehicles not to ply beyond 150 miles, terminal taxes, and restrictions on inter State movement were impeding the maximum utilization of the vehicles in India, especially when the railways in view of the Five-Year Plan were unable to carry all the goods expeditiously.

Mr. Kennedy said he was in India to establish contacts with the Indian branch and to seek and offer advice on matters of common interest.

I. R. F. has three headquarters at London, Washington and Paris. In 1948, when I. R. F. was founded, it had about a dozen branches, including India. Today it had over 50 branches in all parts of the world.

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Calcutta Plans To Check Road Accidents

Calcutta's Traffic Police Chief at a Rotary Club meeting, in an address to the Calcutta Rotary Club, outlined the measures that the authorities have in view for dealing with the city's growing traffic problem. These include a bill to banish the cattle nuisance; clearing the city of its 40,000 pavement hawkers; providing of a car park in Dalhousie Square; re-modelling of Sealdah railway station and its approaches; widening of roads and car parks near Howrah railway station; abolition of slow-moving vehicles which now number over 30,000; licensing of another 500 small taxis and the shifting of bus and tram stops from busy crossings.

Inadequate Road Mileage

Calcutta's road mileage, he said, is totally inadequate to cope with the growing volume of vehicular traffic. The number of vehicles is over 80,000 which includes, 40,000 motor-cars, 11,000 lorries, 1,000 buses, 1,500 taxis, 6,000 rickshaws and 9,000 handcarts. The congestion is aggravated by the number of tall buildings recently built in the busy localities. If half a dozen more tall building go up in the Dalhousie Square area, the entire movement of traffic would be choked. Possibly in the next few years private cars may have to be prohibited from entering the area because of lack of parking space.

Number of Accidents

The number of traffic accidents in Calcutta in the first six months of the year was 2,122, including 95 fatal cases. The comparative figures for Bombay are 2,683—130 fatal and 2,553 involving injuries.

Road Accidents In Greater Bombay

Number of accidents reported from the streets of Greater Bombay in September 1956 was 428. Of these, 24 were fatal, 21 involved serious injuries and 383 slight injuries.

Motorists appear to be responsible for 57 of these accidents—18 fatal, 10 serious injuries and 29 slight injuries; and pedestrians for 371 accidents—six fatal, 11 serious injuries and 354 slight injuries.

Prosecutions for breach of traffic regulations were launched against 203 drivers during the month under report.

Road Accidents In Delhi

Four persons, including two children, were killed and 50 other injured as a result of road accidents in New Delhi and

(*Continued on next page*)

A traffic constable with walkie-talkie wireless set on traffic-contral duty in New Delhi.

'Vigilance by Doctors Should Help Reduce Road Toll'
—UN REPORT

Constant Vigilance by medical practitioners will help to reduce the number of road accidents "if medically unfit drivers and those whose vision is seriously defective are prevented from driving heavy motor vehicles and advised not to drive lighter ones", a report issued at UN Headquarters recently states.

The document—a 41 page supplement to the report and recommendations of the UN Committee of Experts on Licensing of Motor Vehicle Drivers, submitted to the sixth session of the Transport and Communications Commission — embodies the findings of five doctors appointed by the World Health Organization upon the request of the Secretary-General.

The findings include guiding principles for physicians in examining applicants for motor vehicle driving permits and specify the essential medical requirements for safe driving.

"If these requirements are satisfied," says the report, "an applicant for a motor vehicle driving permit may safely be permitted to drive, so far as medical considerations are concerned." As a general rule, it states, applicants for permits should be assessed medically according to the following standards :

(1) Is the applicant physically and mentally able to manipulate the controls and maintain such work for long periods ?

(2) Has the applicant a safe standard of vision and hearing ?

(3) Is there any risk of sudden loss of consciousness while driving ?

(4) Is there a likelihood of severe fatigue toward the end of the day, with consequent increased danger of accident ?

"The drivers of heavy motor vehicles need to maintain a high standard of physical and mental fitness of which they are justly proud, and the knowlede of this, in turn, promotes the confidence of the travelling public," says the report. It urges that "the maintenance of similar high standards by drivers of all types of motor vehicle is desirable and should be encouraged by medical practitioners in their day-to-day work with those of their patients who are drivers".

Part II of the document is devoted briefly to a series of suggestions on practical tests to be carried out by driving examiners, who should be able "to carry out a simple practical eyesight test" which is considered "advisable" when applicants have not been medically examined. However, "practical tests carried out by driving examiners are not a substitute for medical examinations."

The document is being circulated to members of the UN or any of the specialized agencies. In turn, governments are expected to take the findings into consideration in planning their own domestic regulations and practices.

Members of the consultant group which drew up the WHO report were Dr. P. Behague (France), Dr. Seward E. Miller, (United State), Dr. J. da Costa Moreira (Brazil), Dr. L. G. Norman (United Kingdom), and Dr. I. Sayo, (Philippines), and Dr. J. Blum, of the International Council of Ophthalmology also participated in the discussions.

(Continued from Previous page)

Delhi in September, according to the Superintendent of Police (Traffic), Delhi.

The total number of accidents reported to the police during the month under review was 86 involving motor vehicles in 84 cases. Of the total number of persons injured, 18 were pedestrians including eight children.

Twenty-five persons sustained injuries as a result of 55 accidents in New Delhi, whereas, 24 persons were injured in Old Delhi.

India's Road Transport Problems

Road Transport Institute

Mr. R. G. Saraiya, Chairman of the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation and President of the Indian Institute of Road Transport, presiding over the fourth annual meeting of the Institute of Road Transport in Bombay on October 19, said that road transport particularly would have to play a predominant part in making the Second Five-Year Plan a success. He said that all the main constituents of the transport system had to play their part efficiently, particularly road transport as the railways, much overstrained, were unlikely to cope with all the additional traffic.

Mr. Saraiya said it had been estimated that the volume of transport needed for the overall production envisaged in the Second Plan would be of the order of 199 million tons and the gap in the railway facilities would be about 36 million tons. Out of this gap, water transport was expected to cope with six million tons and the remainder 30 million tons had to be met by road transport. The man-power needed for operating some 2,45,000 additional vehicles, including passenger vehicles, which would be put on the roads according to the development scheme in the Second Plan, would be in the region of a million.

Lack of Road Transport

Mr. E. A. Nadirshah, President of the Indian Roads and Transport development Association, addressing the annual general meeting of the Association in Bombay, said that the prime reason for the present lack of transport facilities in the country was the failure of the Government of India to encourage transport agencies other than railways to develop to the same extent as in other countries. He said that deliberate action on the part of the Government in pre-independence days to suppress alternative models of transport had led us to this pass. Their failure so far to undo the wrong has perpetuated transport bottlenecks in the country.

He estimated that compared to the position at the end of the first Five-Year Plan, the transport shortage would be four times more acute at the end of the second Plan.

Mr. Nadirshah listed the following factors, which, in his view, had strung up road transport during the past 16 years: (1) Restrictive regulations of Government, (2) Crippling taxation, (3) Lack of credit facilities, (4) Threat of nationalisation.

Road Research In Europe

Mr. O. V. Alagésan, Deputy Minister for Railway and Transport, left New Delhi on October 2, on a five-week tour of Europe. He attended the general conference of the International Union of Official Tourist Organisations in Vienna from Oct. 19 to October 26, and visited ports, road research institutes, shipyards and locomotive factories in Britain, France, Holland and West Germany.

Shri O. V. Alagesan,
Union Deputy Minister for Railways.

Mr. Somnath Chib, Deputy Secretary in tthe Ministry of Transport, also attended he conference of I. U. O. T O. as India's delegate. He later visited Salzburg to represent India at the meeting of the International Research Institute, a body affiliated to the I. U. O. T. O.

Mr. Alagesan visited road research installation in Paris, London and West Germany.

B. E. S. T. Expansion Plans—Calcutta Tram Strike

Mr. S. K. Patil, President of the Bombay Pradesh Congress Committee, presiding over a ceremoney held under the auspices of the B.E.S.T. Undertaking to commission for service its first light-weight aluminium 70-seater bus, urged upon all official and non-official bodies concerned with different aspect of transport, to sit together and plan for evolving a co-ordinated transport policy. Mr. Patil said he felt proud of the achievements of the B.E.S.T. Undertaking since it was municipalised, as it was the best of all the nationalised and municipalised transport undertakings in the country. But transport must be much better and faster than it was today in the city, and it was necessary to devise ways and means towards that end. With the expansion of the Bombay Municipal Corporation limits, the responsibility of the Corporation and all its allied bodies, like the B.E.S.T. Undertaking, would be increased. Providing transports services to the population of the enlarged. Bombay city itself would be a colossal task, Mr. Patil added.

Mr. Patil suggested to the Undertaking to open a skeleton research department to study the transport problem continuously to facilitate adoption of measures to solve it.

The General Manager of the Undertaking, Mr. M. G. Monani, said that they were going to have 175 aluminium double-deckers added to the B-E.S.T. fleet, the strength of which would increase from 703 to 878 by the end of March, 1958. The total carrying capacity of the fleet, which was at present 39,079, would then increase to 48,920.

The double-decker buses, 27½ ft. long, will carry 70 passengers—38 on the upper deck and 32 on the lower deck—against the limit of 64 achieved previously. These will be the first "over 27 ft." double-deck buses to run in India.

Mr. Salebhoy Abdul Kader, Mayor of Bombay, and Mr. K. S. Dharia, Chairman of the B.E.S.T. Committee, welcomed Mr. Patil and the guests.

Trolley Bus Studies

The Bombay Municipal Corporation on October 18 decided to send Mr. M. G. Monani, General Manager, B. E. S. T. Undertaking, to Japan to study the operation of trolley buses in Japanese cities and prepare a seheme on similar lines for Bombay. The Union Ministry of Transport had asked the Undertaking to investigate the possibility of operating trolley buses and had indicated its willingness to sanction a grant of Rs. 5,000 for a survey of the project.

Mr. K. S. Dharia, Chairman of the B.E.S.T. Committee, stated that trolley buses would be ideally suited to Indian conditions.

Five Day Tram Strike in Calcutta

Tram service in Calcutta and Howrah remained paralysed for five days, beginning from October 1 as a result of the strike by the workers of Calcutta Tramway Company. The strike was called off folliowing an agreement between the representatives of the Company and those of the six trade unions representing the workers. The terms of agreement included sanction of Rs. 20 advance before the Pujahs, enquiry into the allegations made against the Traffic Assistant at Belgatchia depot and a fresh review of the few cases of discharge for being "constitutionally unfit."

The skeleton tram service, which was maintained in Calcutta and Howrah on the first two days, had to be abandoned on the 3rd day of the strike. Not a single car could be taken out on that day as all the traffic washers, numbering about 7,000, joined the strike.

The State Transport authorities brought out additional buses on the street but these were inadequate to meet the needs of passengers. Coming as it had on the eve of the Pujahs, the strike caused great hardship to the people. Nearly 300 tram cars, which ply in Calcutta and Howrah, carry more than ten lakhs of passengers every day.

State Road Transport Conference at Darjeeling

Thirty-six representatives from ten different States of India attended a two-day conference of representatives of State Road Transport Undertakings at Raj Bhavan, Darjeeling, on September 26 and 27. The conference was held under the presidentship of Sri J. N. Talukdar, ICS, Director-General of Transportation, Government of West Bengal, and it was inaugurated by Sri Satish Chandra Roy Singha, Deputy Minister for Home (Transport), West Bengal.

In his inaugural speech, Sri Roy Singha said: "Since Independence road transport has been recognised as a legitimate sphere of Governmental activities and all States have now entered this field. Efficient public transport is essential for the economic well-being of the community. In India development of road transport was so far left to the private initiative, with the result that it has grown mostly through the efforts of small operators, people generally with inadequate resources. With the introduction of diesel traction, road transport services have been developed, particularly in the sphere of passenger transport services with vehicles which are beyond the means of small operators. When development of roads is taking place on a large scale in this country, Government cannot remain indifferent to the problem of providing efficient and modern transport which is one of the foundations on which the progress of the country depends. This position has been recognised in the recent statement of the industrial policy of the Central Government which is designed to usher in a socialistic pattern of society. Road transport has been included in the field in which the State will progressively extend its operations and will generally take the initiative in establishing new undertakings although the private enterprise will be allowed to supplement the effort of the State."

State Transport In West Bengal

Recounting the achievements of the State Transport services in West Bengal, the Deputy Minister further said: "The West Bengal Government have undertaken a scheme of nationalisation of bus services in Calcutta according to a phased programme spread over a period of five years beginning from 1955-56. The first year's programme has been implemented in full and the second year's programme has been partially implemented. There were in Calcutta 552 buses belonging to 332 owners, with the abuses attendant on the presence of such a large number of small operators. So far 164 private buses have been replaced by State buses in Calcutta and the operators in most cases have been given alternative routes outside Calcutta."

Sri D. D. Suri, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Government of India, who also addressed the first day's conference, said: "In the development of motor transport hitherto, the contribution made by the nationalised services has been significant. Newer, well-maintained and larger number of vehicles on the road, regular and more reliable services, greater courtesy to the travelling public and increasing amenities for workers—these were some of the achievements of the notionalised undertakings which have made them popular and assured for them a brighter future."

Leyland "Comet" in Asia-Europe Trip

Mr. Kundan Lal, leader of the All-India Motor Union Congress delegation to the International Road Transport Congress at Stockholm, at a Press Conference in New Delhi on October 17, pleaded for a regular bus service between India and other countries. The delegation which left India in May, toured 19 countries in Europe and Asia in a Leyland "Comet" diesel bus. Mr. Lal disclosed that they had not had any trouble with the bus during their 20,000-mile journey. The delegation visited Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, France, Holland, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, West Germany and Yugoslavia.

Working of Panchayats In U.P. : Allegations of Irregularities

The U. P. Legislative Council on October 22 inconclusively considered an official resolution sponsored by the leader of the Opposition to appoint a Joint-Select Committee of the Legislature to enquire into the working of the Panchayat Raj in the State in view of the fact that its working has not proved satisfactory.

Mr. Guru Narian said that the very fact that **panchayat dues amounting to Rs. 2 crores had not been collected** was enough to show that the panchayats were not functioning properly. Gram sabhas, he added, did not meet to pass the budget of the panchayats. He also alleged that panchayat secretaries were not performing their functions properly, and the result was that the entire working of panchayats had come to a standstill.

Litigation Encouraged

The nayaya panchayats were not dispensing justice impartially. Besides, after the institution of nayaya panchayats the villagers had developed the "unholy desire" to go to litigation for petty things.

Dislocation of Village Administration

Mr. P. C. Azad (Congress) supporting the resolution, said that the existing gaon panchayat system had given rise to a large number of questionable practices. He pleaded for the election of panchayats by ballot, and agreed with Mr. Guru Narain that a thorough shake-up of the whole system was necessary. Most of the members of the adalti panchayats, he said, would be found wanting in necessary qualifications. Another Congress member, Mr. Panna Lal Gupta, supporting the resolution, said the panchayats were responsible for injustices, corrupt practices, group politics, gangsterism and severe dislocation of the village administration.

Dr. Ishwari Prasad, a former Professor of Politics of Allahabad University (Independent), said that **the introduction of the panchayat system had given great encouragement to casteism and group rivalries and stifled justice and democratic idealism.**

Mr. Mahabir Singh (Congress), while defending the Panchayat raj experiment, admitted that the provision for election by show of hands, was really a big defect. Another Congress member, Mr. Puran Chandra said that in order to protect the panchayats from the pressure politics of village factions it was necessary to introduce the system of election by secret ballot.

Minister Says Inquiry Will Be Premature

Minister for Local Self-Government, Mr. Ali Zaheer, intervening in the debate, said that the Panchayat Act was passed in 1947 and after the panchayats had worked for five years a committee was appointed to inquire into the working of the panchayats. This committee proposed certain amendments to the original act. An amending bill was brought forward and referred to a Joint Select Committee of the Legislature. It was under the amended act that the elections of panchayats were held in 1956. In many places nayaya panchayats had not even started functioning. It would, therefore, be incorrect to sit in judgment on their working at this stage. He said that the demand for secret ballot for panchayats was not only incorrect, but something which was not possible in view of the large number of panchayats and huge number of panches.

Panchayat In Every Revenue Village

Mr. G. S. Chooramani, Joint Director of Panchayats, U. P., speaking in Allahabad on October 21 said that the Government were anxious that coercive methods should not be adopted in the realisation of taxes by village panchayats. In the district of Garhwal, which was one of the poorest in U. P. tax collection had, however, been cent per cent from year to year. This showed that poverty was not

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A Critical Analysis of India's Community Development Programme

By **Dr. Carl C. Taylor,**

Ford Foundation Consultant on Community Development

"India's programme is unique in that it is both a Community Development and an Extention Programme. It is a Community Development Programme in that its major objective is to develop more than five hundred thousand village communities by methods which will stimulate, encourage, and aid villagers themselves to do much of the work necessary to accomplishing this objective. It is an Extension Programme in that it develops channels between all higher centres of information and villager, and develops trained personnel to carry agricultural, health, education, and all other types of scientific and technical knowledge to more than two hundred and seventyfive million villagers living in hundreds of thousands of villages", writes Dr. Carl C. Taylor in a 62-page "Critical Analysis of India's Community Development Programme". (Dr. Carl Talyor is an eminent Sociologist from the United States with a life-time of experience in Community Development Programme in all parts of the world. He has worked in India as a Consultant to the Ford Foundation, at the invitation of the Community Projects Administration of Government of India, and in this "Critical Analysis" he has offered his observations on the Community Development Programme as it stands to-day.)

Dr. Taylor notes that although India had borrowed much from extension programmes in other countries, she had wrought out both methods and administration of a programme which were uniquely usable in other so-called "under-developed countries." The major issue of her development programme was the accomplishment of maximum desired change without sacrificing too much of a traditional culture which she cherishes.

Dr. Carl Taylor Continues :

If the revolutionary changes desired, and probably needed, are to be accomplished by evolutionary methods, nothing is more imperative than a thorough understanding of how this can be done in one village after another, in one home and on one farm after another. The habits of millions of persons must be changed or modified, and gradually their attitudes, or outlook, changed and modified.

Many countries have chosen and attained progress. Some have chosen progress but have not accomplished it. Some have made great progress without consciously choosing to do so.

During the last few years I have been in a number of so-called under-developed countries which desire and are trying to plan for progress. It is my prediction that the hopes of some of them will not materialise because of the means they are attempting to employ. **It is my conviction that India has not only chosen good ends by which to stimulate and measure progress, but is using valid means by which to gain these ends. She has chosen the goal of raising the level of living of all the hundreds of millions of her citizens, in all her 658,000 villages, in aided self-help improvement undertakings.**

Raising the level of living of all the people is a difficult and complex task. But the task can be resolved into practical and simple terms. The simplest terms conceivable result from defining the level of living in terms of the basic needs and desires of the people. They are needs for good clothing, shelter and health, and the desire or need for education, recreation, community life and religion. When looked at in these terms it becomes clear that local group action has a far greater contribution to make to the task of raising the levels of living of all the people than action on any other organised level of society.

Local problems are the chief concern of village people and the solution of these problems rank second to no other problems in India's plan for progress. Inspired and dedicated local groups can contribute more to the solutions of these problems than can any other individuals or groups in the nation.

Community development is the method by which people who live in local villages or communities are involved in helping to improve their own economic and social conditions and thereby become effective working groups in programmes of national development.

Concepts and Purposes

The genius of any programme is sharply conditioned by the concepts and purposes with which the programme starts. Prime Minister Nehru in his address to the first State Development Commissioners' Conference, May, 1952, congently expressed these concepts and purposes. He said : "The community projects appear to me to be something of vital importance, not only in the national achievement that they would bring about but much more so because they seek to build up the community and the individual, and to make the latter a builder of his own village centre and India in a large sence." The First Five-Year Plan had spelled out these objectives and methods in fairly great detail.

The genius of the programme is not in its magnitude of population and geographic coverage or in the great amount of personnel it must employ. It is in the way it has already reached more than one hundred thousand villages without a large body of highly trained technicians, and without adequate funds to employ them had they been available. It is not a perfect programme but it is a prorgamme by which changes of many kinds have been initiated in India and can be initiated in other countries which are not strong financially, not rich in highly trained personnel, and in which the vast majority of peasants, who must be reached and helped, can neither read nor write and therefore cannot be reached by mass means of Communication. The designed pattens of the programme are that villagers with secondary or middle school education are carefully selected, and trained to work in villages as multi-purpose, first-aid technical assistance to villagers and village groups. These Village Level Workers are supported by a much smaller number of college trained technicians who can help the village workers and villagers with more advanced technical know-how than village high-school graduates can be expected to have. All technical services of Government channel their aid to villagers through these echelons of personnel.

Part of National Programme

Community Development is only part of the total national development methods and programme. Its successful operation depends upon and is inter-woven with the work and programme of all other development agencies which reach down to villages. It is primarily a method by which villagers are helped to organise their efforts and to accomplish improvements, and through their organisation receive adequate and ready assistance from any and all development departments.

India is catalogued at this moment in history as an "under-developed" country, chiefly because she lags behind the most abvanced countries in technological development. She can and will, like all other countries have done, borrow technologies from the ends of the earth and train scientists at home and abroad. But she believes, and knows, that she must herself develop her own great mass of people. For the task of accomplishing this, she launched and is evolving a Community Development Programme. **It is a programme for inducing change in such a way that each step in change will be inculcated in the habits and attitudes of her millions of peasants.**

The contributions India is making to democratic planning may very well be one of the chief contributions to the world out of her Development Programme.

Most Gigantically Planned

The Community Development Programme in India is the most gigantically planned and governmentally administered programme of its kind in the histroy of the world. It has planned and tried some things which have never been tried before, probably the most significant being that of channelling technical and material assistance from all departments and agencies of Government down to villagers through a co-ordinated and integrated scheme of Extension administration. It has tried some things which I believe it could have known would not work well, had it known more about what have been the experiences gained elsewhere in the world, and had it known of the fairly well validated large body of technical knowledge concerning group formation and community mobilization. It has had successes which if carefully analysed and objectively and clearly described will not only guide its programme in the future but will be a great contribution to other countries, especially to developing countries which want, or need, to use Community Development Extension methods and programme of development.

Community Development is a method, and India's Community Development Programme, are based on a knowledge that the mobilized manpower, ingeunity and enthusiasm of the hundreds of millions of people who live in hundreds of thousands of separate local villages, is imperative to national economic, social and political development. It is based on the stated conviction that they can be effectively mobilised only if premitted to share in the responsibility for their own development. It is based on the knowledge that villagers, even though illiterate, have self-recognised needs and desires to satisfy these needs.

The objectives of the Indian Community Development Programme are so high, and the dedication of the nation to these objectives so firm and so animated, that India cannot afford any degree of failure to understand and use, in this great people's programme, everything that is known or can be learned about the most effective methods of local group formation, the development of local leaders, and the mobilization and organisation of responsive and responsible village communities.

Administering A People's Programme

A gigantic people's programme must be organised and directed. But it cannot, as with some other types of programmes, be completely directed from the top by a set of rules and procedures. No static or rigid scheme of administration can successfully direct a rapidly accelerating programme of change that involves hundreds of millions of people scattered over a large geographic area and living in hundreds of relatively isolated village groups. No proliferation of sub-units of hierarchial administration will suffice for such a programme. Only a highly decentralised administration, oprating through many relatively autonomous local units, each permitted to make many day-by-day decisions, can successfully operate a gigantic people's programme and a programme of creative change.

Administration is said to consist of the mobilization, organisation, and management of materials, men and money. In a people's programme the greater part of administration's task is that of mobilizing, organizing and managing men. It is not so much the exercising of authority, or even the delegation of authority, as it is the development of initiative and responsibility on the part of leaders of local groups. Because this is the main purpose of the Community Development Programme, it is the main task of those administering the programme.

Until about one hundred and fifty-years ago men by the millions had not been consciously mobilized, organised and managed for any other purpose than war. Large industry and business, later organized than great armies, have discovered that the methods employed in handling armies is not alone adequate to the handling of masses in civilian pursuits. Elton Mayo, one of the great industrial efficiency experts of the world, has described as "social-skills" the additional

elements which must be employed in organizing and managing masses of men in civilian undertakings. The genius of social skills is that they develop teamwork and morale among great numbers of people who are together engaged in great common undertakings. Those engaged in administration may, and probably must on an organization chart appear as a pyramidial hierarchy. But in operation an administration is not a hierarchy but a team.

Certain decisions must be made at the top and centre of all organizations in order that what is being learned at any and all parts of the operating programme may be appraised and communicated with surety and despatch to all other parts of the organization.

The most fundamental principle of any efficient administration is, of course, that it keeps all administrative action beamed to and all its proceedings geared to the facilitation of the objectives of the programme which it administers.

The operation of a system of administrating human relations between all echelons of administration must not only be constant but must be cordial and fluid. To make them such is one of the social skills of effective programme operation.

In a Community Development, or any other programme, which depends upon the volunteer and creative effort of millions of persons and hundreds of thousands of widely dispersed groups, most day-by-day, and even month-by-month, decisions must be made locally. Because of this, open and ready channels of administrative communication travelling upward are far more important than those travelling downward. There is far greater need that those functioning in higher echelons of administration know what is needed to implement decisions made by imperative necessity in local areas than there is that those functioning in local areas know what some top level administrator and his office staff have reasoned out.

The many tedious tasks of administration and the need for sure and expeditious decisions very often lead top administrators to forget that the chief justification of their part in the programme is the implementation of people's activities. Effectively organised administration, as imperative as it is, tends to strait-jacket people's otherwise dynamic, creative, initiative and action. Legal procedure, allocation of funds, and administrative directives tend to knock the edges off local creative impulses and personal zest for action. Administration in and of itself cannot catalyse the giant dynamic that resides in the hopes and aspirations of three hundred and seventy million people. All it can do is to help implement this developing dynamic.

A Community Development Movement : Its Assets & Liabilities

While India is not the only, and was not the first, country to launch and operate a Community Development Programme, **it is the only country in which there is something approaching a Community Development Movement.** Movements arise out of latent bodies of discontent which are so deep and widespread that any prospect of alleviation or remedy immediately mobilizes the concern of masses of people. The long-standing proverty and low levels of living of millions of Indian villagers undoubtedly fostered a body of latent discontent. When a Community Development programme began definitely to prove that it was seriously tackling the roots of this discontent, the response and expectations of the people began to develop many of the characteristics of a movement.

In static societies discontent is ignored, and in autocratic societies discontent finds no mode of expression except in revolt or revolution. Movements, therefore, arise only in societies that permit and encourage change, and they develop only in democratic societies.

Most so-called "under-developed" countries seem to have become aware of the plight of their peasants. They have always known that peasants constituted the most important sector of their economies and the most stable element in their social order.

I am fairly sure that Community Development was called a movement in India before it gave any evidence of being such. I am equally sure that there is danger of it becoming movement. From my limited knowledge of the detailed historical facts, it appears to me that the basic roots of the movement lie in the value which Indian religion and tradition attach to the worth of the individual as a person, and in the belief of millions of village people that each local village is a social entity to be cherished. Both these values surved the dire circumstances under which the Indian people were compelled to live for many generations. I am sure thrt Gandhi catalysed there two values with the first step toward a village development movement.

Not only his constructive work but a few other small and generally isolated programmes of community improvement were launched in India between 1930 and 1947. Each one of them undoubtedly made a contribution to the growing consciousness that there were great undeveloped potentialities in the Indian peasantry. With the gaining of independence, in the long struggle for which millions of Indians had been ideologically and emotionally mobilized, it was natural, or probably inevitable, that the threads of what had in the past been either nebulous or episodic attempts at village improvement should have tended to be woven into a Community Development Movement.

Movements originate in and grow out of the people. They arise from the ground and spread upward and then outward. They cannot effectively spread outward unless they spread upward and make conjuction with the minds and sympathies of leaders who in the past may have been "voices crying in the wilderness" but who have enough wisdom to interpret the valid discontent of the masses, sponsor their causes, and insist that their motives be implemented not merely palliated, much less suppressed and thwarted.

Role of Delicated Leaders

Some countries have only a few such leaders. They are so few that they are smothered and often silenced by a much greater number whose vested interests dominate all national affairs, including the Government. These few intelligent and dedicated leaders have no effective way to make conjunction with the masses, and the masses have no way of learning of these leaders' ideas or even of their existence. This was not the case in India, when it finally became an independent nation.

The vast majority of villagers I have met and visited with, both in and outside development blocks, want to be more efficient producers, want better opportunities for their children, and want better living conditions in their homes and communities. **There is nothing of which I am deeply convinced by my observations than that there is more need at the moment, and the need will increase in the future, for administrators to effectively implement the aroused impulses of the people than there is need for urging villagers to raise their sights or even to participate in a movement.**

The Indian Community Development Programme has made citizens in all geographic areas and on all levels of iife aware that great reforms in rural life are afoot and moving far and fast. But it has tended to stimulate furious activity to accomplish visible and spectacular physical results, sometimes to the detriment of patient but sure mobilization of the human resources and the improvement of the productive factors of one after the other of its 548,000 villages. **The greatest asset of Community Development is not that it has grown into a movement but that it is a method by which all the technical services of Government can be channelled down to meet and assist the gigantic developing potential power of hundreds of thousands of effectively organized village groups.**

Community Development—Extension Methods

The unique genius of India's Community Development—Extension programme is based on the knowledge that Extension work can best be done by use of group methods; that adoption of improvement

practices by individuals will be more rapid if organized groups assume responsibility for the spread of these practices.

There are a number of countries which have efficient Extension programmes but make very little use of group methods. There are countries which have both Community Development and Extension programmes, working side by side, but neither fully aware of what the other is doing and each inclined to discount the effectiveness of the other. **My interpretation, and my observations, of India's programme is that it is an integration of Extension and Community Development methods and programmes.** But there are times and places where group organization is promoted solely for the sake of organization. When this is done there is a tendency to over-emphasize group or mass participation irrespective of whether or not it is dedicated to and sharply focussed upon high priority objectives.

Community Development is, however, more than an additional Extension method. It consists of any and all methods by which local community groups organize to promote and carry out any and all types of projects which will improve the life and work of individuals, families, and the community as a whole.

The first step in Community Development is systematic discussion among members of the local community of their common felt needs. It is only when discussions are systematic, even though among a relative few representative persons or families, that analysis of important commonly felt need is accomplished.

The second step in Community Development is systematic planning to carry out the first self-help undertaking that has been selected by the community.

The third step in Community Development is the almost complete mobilization and harnessing of the physical, economic and social potentialities of local community-groups.

The fourth step in Community Development is the creation of groups or community aspirations and the determination to undertake additional community improvement projects.

No other country in the world is so heroically attempting to develop hundreds of millions of local people and hundreds of thousands of local communities by democratic methods as is India. The magnitude of this undertaking should not obscure the basic fact that the successful processes for developing one local community after another are the same whether there are one thousand or five hundred thousand communities to be developed.

(*To Be Continued*)

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the chief cause of poor collections elsewhere.

The Joint Director of Panchayats said **the total number of panchayats in the State was 72,478 and that of nayaya (judicial) panchayats was 8,583.** In the Second Five Year Plan the State Government had sanctioned a sum of Rs. 2,000 for each gaon sabha, he said.

Govt. Aid For Rajasthan Panchayats

The Rajasthan Government has decided to give enhanced assistance to the panchayats in the State with a view to giving impetus to the development of panchayats and to enable them to discharge their primary responsibilities. Three-and-a-half per cent. of the land revenue of the panchayat circle will be set apart for the purpose, and a further contribution up to 3½ per cent. of land revenue of the panchayat circle will be made to such of the panchayats as fulfil certain conditions like:- The panchayats should agree to discharge their responsibilities in regard to running schools, dispensaries, aushadhalayas, reading rooms, maintenance of all weather roads, provision of drinking water facilities and maintenance of village tanks and that the panchayats should agree to co-ordinate and finance their village development programme with the State programme under the second Five-Year Plan. **There are about 3,290 village panchayats and 211 tehsil panchayats in the State.**

JUNAGADH SEMINAR

The need for the right type of personnel for carrying out the programme of Community Development in the country was emphasised by Shri R. O. Parikh, the Chief Minister of Saurashtra, while inaugurating the first Inter-State Regional Seminar (1956-57) at Junagadh on October 8.

India, Shri Parikh said, was not as rich as some of the advanced countries of the West. But it was not the paucity of funds so much as the dearth of trained personnel which stood in the way of expeditious carrying out of the development work in rural areas. He advised the authorities in charge of the Community Development programme to concentrate more on the training of workers.

The measure of success of the programme, Shri Parikh maintained, lay not merely in the physical achievements of, but in its capacity to create the feeling of self-reliance in the people themselves. The workers would succeed in achieving this objective only if they had faith in the programme as well as in the people. Proper respect for the villagers' wisdom and practical knowledge was essential for carrying out the developmental work.

Shri Parikh also laid stress upon the need for providing some basic amenities of life, such as pure drinking water, education, roads, etc., for the villagers. The Chief Minister pointed out that, in order to create enthusiasm among the villagers for larger production and prosperity, it was essential to give them these amenities, so that they might become conscious of a better way of life. That alone would provide them with the incentive for hard work which was necessary for the betterment of their economic condition.

Successful Working of Panchayats

Earlier, the Development Commissioner, Saurashtra, Shri J. G. Shah, in his address of welcome, referred to the successful working of the panchayats in the State. **He said that 3,887 panchayats were now working in the State, covering more than 4,000 villages and 99 per cent of the rural population. These panchayats, he observed, were being fully utilised as agencies of development work in the State.** Village planning was being done with the help of these panchayats, and the execution of the development plans was also being left to them to some extent. In fact, the Development Commissioner pointed out, the Panchayat Secretary was now working as an ex-officio Village Level Worker.

Co-operative Movement

The progress of the co-operative movement in Saurashtra was also referred to by the Development Commissioner in this context. The number of registered co-operative societies was 2,500 at the middle of this year, as against 220 in 1948. Membership had also increased to 1,85,000 from 7,800 during the corresponding period. Credit facilities extended by these societies ammounted to Rs. 350 lakhs in 1955, as against Rs. 10 lakhs in 1948.

Community Development Programme

Giving an account of the progress of the Community Development programme, Shri Shah informed the Seminar that at present there were 10 Community Development and National Extension Blocks in the State, covering 1,344 villages. An indication of the peoples' willing participation in the programme was that, against an expenditure of over Rs. 14 crores incurred by the Government as grant-in-aid, the peoples' contribution in cash, kind and labour come to Rs. 52 lakhs.

About 2,000 new wells for providing pure drinking water, 2,000 new schools and 1,000 community houses were built during the past four years. About 1,200 village roads, 125 rest houses and 100 tanks also came into being as a result of the joint efforts of the people and the Government.

Foreign Delegates

The Seminar, was attended by more than 150 delegates, including Development Commissioners and several departmental heads from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Saurashtra,

Madhya Bharat, Bihar, Pepsu and Kutch. A notable feature of the Seminar was the participation in deliberations by a few foreign delegates—workers engaged in rural development programmes—from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Mr. S. K. Dey's Address

Mr. S. K. Dey, Union Minister for Community Development, addressing the concluding session of seminar in Junagadh on October 11, said that the termination of the intensive period in community development programmes in the country only meant assumption of greater initiative by villagers themselves in the work after they had been launched into individual and community effort for development.

Mr. Dey said that in the context of limited resources of the country it was not possible to concentrate Government efforts on development work in a few selected areas for all time to come. People's institutions like the panchayats and block advisory committees should be given increasingly larger responsibilities in regard to the implementation of specific aspects of the programme.

They should also be given proper recognition and full credit to carry out these responsibilities successfully, he said. That was the only way to make the people consider development programme as their own and to ensure its continuance even without undue reliance on official direction.

Mr. Dey said khadi and small village industries had great potentialities for providing employment for a large number of people and these should be given a fair trial in the field of community development. The introduction of highly mechanized means of production, he warned, would add to the problem of unemployment in the country unless such mechanization took place as an organic growth with the advancement of all sectors of community life.

The Minister pointed out that the future of the community development in the country depended on making the people themselves mainly responsible for its planning and execution. He would consider the extent of enthusiasm created by extension workers among the people as the criterion of success in the programme.

Mr. Dey said administrative officials, development commissioners, district and other officers were today full of enthusiasm to utilize the opportunity of service to the community which had come their way but unless this enthusiasm spread among all those who were associated with development work and particularly among the technical officers satisfactory progress could not be executed.

Earlier, Mr. Ratubhai Adani, Saurashtra's Development Minister, who presided over the seminar, urged the necessity for renewed effort to enhance agricultural production in the country through the medium of community development.

The Seminar during its four days of discussions took stock of the economic, social and psychological impact of the community development programme in the country.

The different study groups of the seminar emphasized the need to carry out a systematic and scientific survey to assess the effect of community development and National Extension Service work in the country. It was felt that there was preceptible increase in agricultural production on account of additional irrigation facilities, improved methods of cultivation, better seeds and fertilizers used in the project areas.

The seminar recognized that there had been an increase in the wages of agricultural labour as well as non-agricultural wages in projects areas.

On an overall review of the effect of the programme the majority of the delegates felt that economic advantages of the community development and National Extension Service had touched mainly the agricultural classes. The landless labour and the lower strata of society was yet to reap its benefits.

It was unanimously felt that the programme achieved "remarkable success" in its impact in the psychological and social spheres. The educational programme at present suffered more for want of adequate number of school buildings and school teachers than any lack of response from the people.

Indian Approach to Community Development

U. S. Newspapers' Praise

The *Christian Science Monitor*, a U.S. Daily Newspaper said on October 31 that India is "laying the foundations of freedom in the only way in which true popular movements have been able to grow and mature in the past—from the individual up and in mind as well as muscle".

The *Monitor*, in an article by its American News Editor, Saville R. Davis, noted that "community development crusades" are beginning in many Asian countries but "India is far out in the lead".

"By the time the Second Five Year Plan is done most of India's half million villages will probably have been touched in significant degree by the programme. It was more than pride which caused Gandhi to say that if Asia was to live, India had to lead the way. It was wisdom and foresight."

The full-page *Monitor* article by Davis was written from Dhuri in PEPSU state and was captioned "a case study of a nation trying to build progress from the bottom up—the democratic way". The article also had pictures of the Indian village and a new well built by the villagers.

Davis stresses in his article that if the "new tools of physical power in Asia are put in the hands of systems and countries where the people are not adequately prepared mentally and socially and politically to master them. .then the outcome could be a giant miscarriage of good concepts and efforts".

"Greatness of India"

Davis points out that India is very much aware of this and he calls this awareness "the greatness of India".

"India is struggling against all the Asian handicaps of economic and social caste and outcaste, to put first things first," Davis writes. "Its conscious purpose, repeated to me continually by village level workers, by their instructors, by those who train the instructors and administer the system and those who are makers of policy, is this fundamental one: that village development is first of all a change of thinking. Unless the minds and beings of people are liberated, the rest could be a shell.

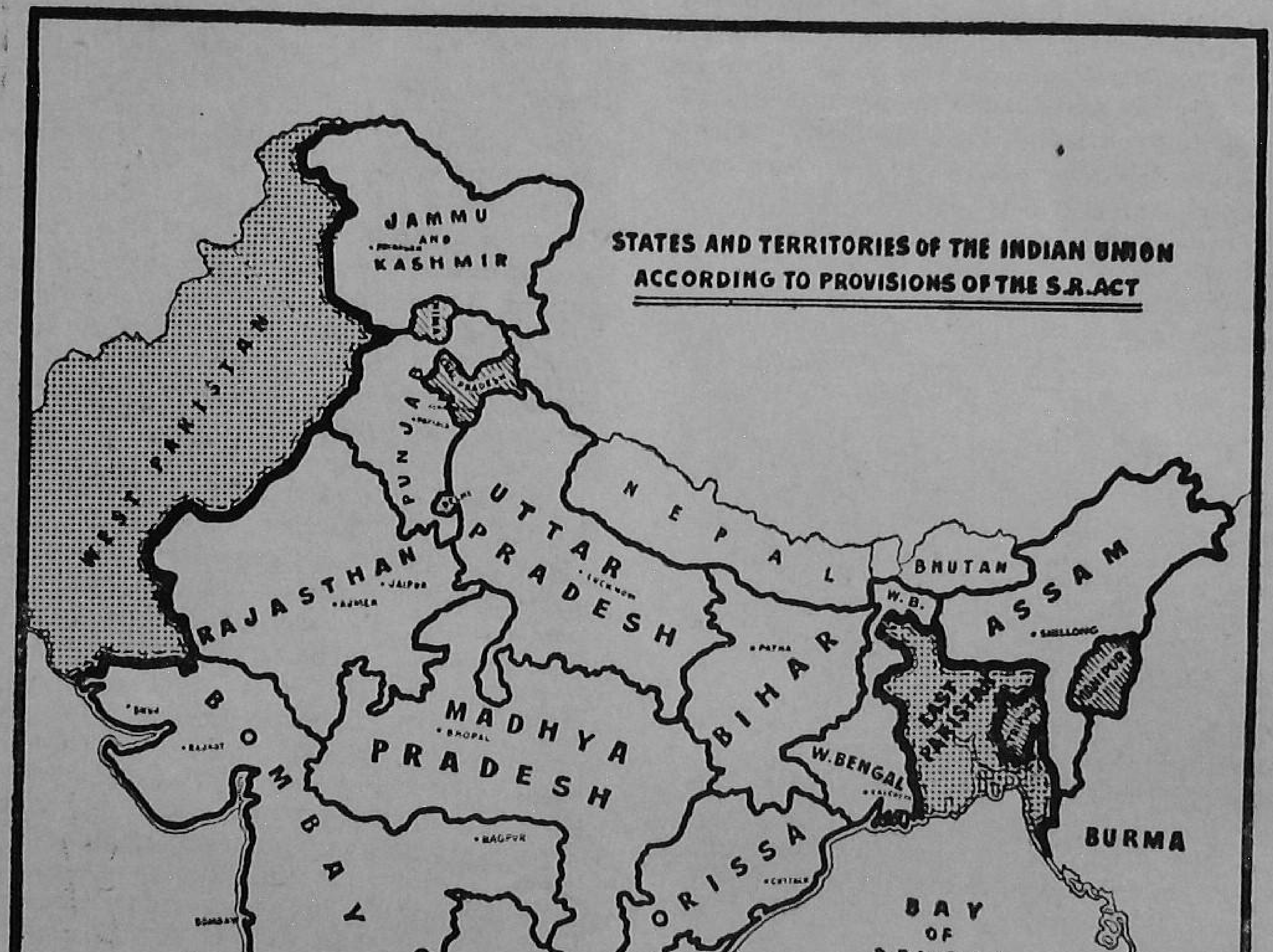
"Unless that jolting, careering jeep gets through to the great mass of villages regularly, and unless the village workers live in continuous, intimate discomfort with their unsolved problems and keep their devotion burning high, unless officials can bite back that habitual tendency to think of simple people as simpletons who must be told what to do and how to do it, unless the planners and politicians can brace their programmes against a tendency to build in the community—then the villages of India and of Asia could well breed revolutions instead of a better life.

"They know this in India. Not all village workers, to be sure, are well selected as yet, and they are bound at this stage to be preoccupied with physical things. But the scope of their training on this special point is being rapidly improved and I was greatly impressed when discussing it after the meeting at Dhuri.....

"Their chief, Mr. Singh, repeated it with a score of different variations between bouts of cranking the jeep on visits to many villages. Equally heartening I found the top figures in Delhi and their expert advisers from overseas determined that their first concern should be this struggle against the forces that held the villagers in mental bondage.

"These Indians are engaged in a great struggle with themselves, with their own traditional habits, and mental rigidities, as well as with the various resistances arrayed against them. They are deep in the struggle and the effect of this extraordinary effort at conscious self-discipline are beginning to take hold and to become known around...."

NEW MAP OF INDIA



Reorganisation Of Indian States

India turned a new chapter in her administrative history on November 1, when the 29 units—10 Part A, 8 Part B and 10 Part C States and 1 Part D territory—which comprised the Indian Union till October 31, were reshuffled to form 20 units—14 States and 6 Centrally-administerated territories. Pondicherry, whose *de jure* transfer has not yet taken place, is not a full part of the Indian Union.

Andhra

The Andhra Pradesh is composed of the old Andhra State and the Telgu speaking area of the Hyderabad State. Total population and area of the Andhra Pradesh are 32.2 million and 1,10,250 sq. miles, respectively. Hyderabad is the Capital of the new State. Comprising of 20 districts, Andhra State is the fifth largest State in India.

Assam

Assam emerges with its territories and population intact. Its area is 84,924 sq. miles and its population 90,43,702 as before re-organisation.

Bihar

Due to transfer of 3,167 sq. miles, to West Bengal, Bihar State is now left with an area of 67,830 sq. miles and a population of 389 lakhs.

Bombay

The new Bombay State came into being by merging the States of Kutch and Saurashtra and the Marathi-speaking areas of Hyderabad (Marathwada) and Madhya Pradesh (Vidarbha) in the old State of Bombay, while the Kannada-speaking areas of the Belgaum, Bijapur, Kanara and Dharwar districts of the old Bombay State have been transferred to the new Mysore State and the Abu Road Taluka to the new Rajasthan State. The new Bombay State is the only bilingual State which brings together about 25 million Marathi-speaking and about 16 million Gujarati-speaking people, and emerges as the largest State in respect of area. It has 43 districts, covering an area of 1,90,619 sq. miles, with a population of 48,265,174.

Jammu & Kashmir

The State remains unaffected by the reorganisation. It has an area of 92,780 sq. miles and a population of 44 lakhs.

Kerala

The smallest of the 14 newly formed States, Kerala constitutes the old Travancore-Cochin State, the Malabar district of Madras and the Kasargode taluk of South Kanara, minus the Tamil-speaking area of southern Travancore. Its area is placed at 14.980 sq. miles and population at 13.6 million. Both density of population and percentage of literacy are the highest in Kerala. Kerala continues under the President's rule.

Madhya Pradesh

With an area of 171,200 sq. miles and a population of 26.1 million, the new State of Madhya Pradesh is the second largest State in the new map of India. It is composed of what formerly were Madhya Bharat, Vindhya Pradesh, Bhopal, the 17 districts (Hindi) of former Madhya Pradesh, and the Sironj Sub-Division of the Kotah district of Rajasthan, excluding the Sunel enclave of the Mandsaur district in former Madhya Bharat. Bhopal is the capital of the new State.

Madras

The new Madras State has 13 districts, an area of 50,170 sq. miles with a population of 30 million. Some outlying parts of the Madras State have been clipped away and are joined with Mysore and Kerala States.

Mysore

The new Mysore State consists of the old princely States of Mysore and Coorg, the Bijapur, Kanara and Dharwar districts and the major portion of the Belgaun district of Bombay and major parts of the Gulbarga, Raichur and Bidar districts in Hyderabad and portions of the South Kanara and Coimbatore districts in Madras. Its area is 72,730 sq. miles and population 190 lakhs.

Orissa

Orissa is one of the four States (others being Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh) which remain unaffected by the re-organisation plan. Its total area is 60,136 sq. miles and population 146 lakhs.

Punjab

The new Punjab comprises of the PEPSU and Punjab States existing before States re-organisation. With an area of 46,616 sq. miles its is only bigger than Kerala and West Bengal. Its population is only 16 millions. Chandigarh continues its Capital.

Rajasthan

The new State of Rajasthan with an area of 131,300 sq. miles and a population of 16 million, is composed of the previous Rajasthan State, excluding its Sironj sub-division (now transferred to Madhya Pradesh) and includes Ajmer and Sunel enclave of the Mandsaur district and Abu road taluka (transferred from Bombay State). Jaipur continues its Capital.

Uttar Pradesh

One of the four States untouched by the latest re-orgnisation, Uttar Pradesh has the largest population, of all the Indian States, but stands fourth in area. The population, according to the 1951 census, is 6,32,15,742 and its area 1,13,595 sq. miles.

West Bengal

The reorganisation has resulted in an addition of 3,157 sq. miles of area to the State of West Bengal. The new West Bengal State has an area of 33,279 sq. miles and a population of nearly 262 lakhs. The State has 15 districts.

Centrally Administered Territories

Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Laccadive and Amindive, and Andaman and Nicobar are now 'Centrally Administered Territories', and their respective areas are 578, 11,053, 8,628, 4,116, 1,900, and 3,215 sq. miles. Their total population is less than two percent of the total Indian population.

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(December 7)

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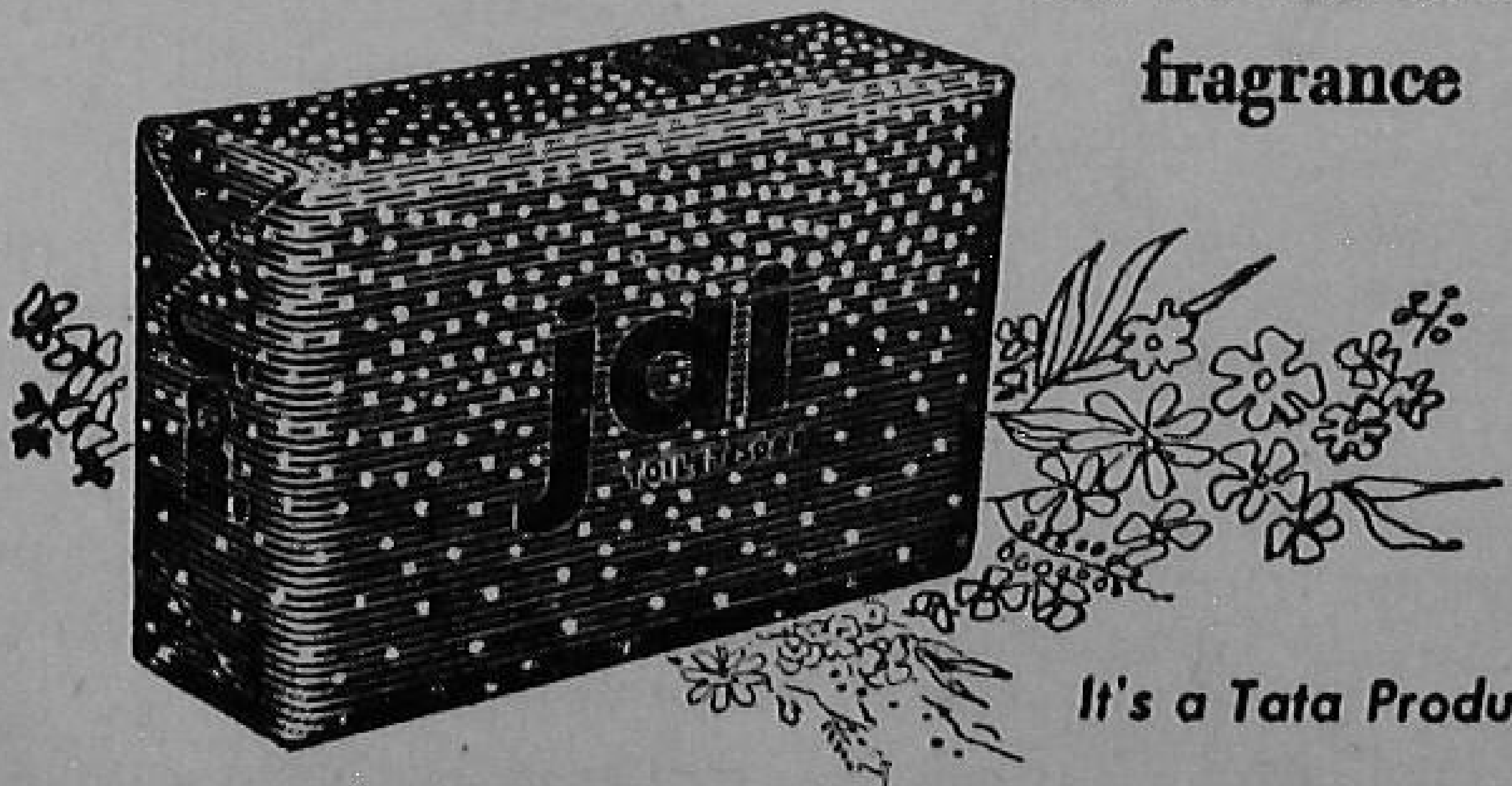

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Book Review

Local Self-Government Administration In States Of India—1956

Published by Central Council of Local Self-Government, Ministry of Health, Government of India, price Rs. 2—2—0.

This Directory of Local Self-Government Institutions in India is the first of its kind. It describes the Local Self-Government administration in the various States of India. The information is based on the material furnished by the State Governments themselves and it relates to the year 1953-54 generally. For each State information has been compiled about the Local Bodies, both in rural and urban areas, including Municipal Councils, District Boards, Town Area Committees and Panchayats. Cantonment Boards, however, remain outside the purview of this publication.

The usefulness of this publication is undoubted. It would be possible to make future even publications more informative and to publish more recent statistics than has been the case in this first attempt. Unfortunately, with the reorgnisation of States on November 1, the publication for a majority of States has become out of date, and the next issue of this handy publication will be the awaited with keen interest by all those concerned with Local Government in this country, and by the students of the subject.

We reproduce below extracts from and Introduction in the publication, in that it provides a brief summary of the history of the Local Self-Government in India :—

"Local Self-Government may be defined as that part of the Government of the country which is carried on by local bodies such as the Panchayats, District Boards, Municipalities and Corporations.

"Local government was no doubt known in India from very ancient times. But very little of it survived. The old institutions deteriorated, first during the Mughal period and later under the East India Company; and under the British rule local government had undergone a vast change.

"As early as 1687 the East India Company set up a Municipal Corporation at Madras on the model of the local bodies in Britain for the carrying out of local services. Similar efforts were made at Bombay and Calcutta. But it was not until late in the 19th Century that the development of local Governments on some systematic lines took place in India. Lord Mayo's Government in 1870 recognised the principle of developing local bodies to afford the people of India training in self-government. Even then the development was confined to urban areas only. The Ripon Resolution of 1882 which recognised that "there was rapidly growing up an intelligent class of public spirited men whom it was not only bad policy but sheer waste of power to fail to utilise, made a further advance, in that elected elements in local bodies increased considerably and the system of local government was extended to rural areas as well. All the same, executive control was still retained in the hands of the Government, thus defeating the object of the Resolution. With the advent of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919 there were some changes. Local bodies with large elected majorities were administered by non-official chairmen.

"It is only from 1920 that one can say some form of real local self-government was in operation, although personal and party antagonisms, the Congress Boycott Movement, the Civil Disobedience Campaign, the No-tax Campaign, etc., had all their share in the retarding of progress at various stages.

"There has been a great awakening in the administrators and among the people after the achievement of Independence as regards the necessity of Local Self-Government on a firm, uniform and democratic basis.

"The mistakes of the past have, however, to be taken into account while trying to reform our local government system. The lesson from the Dyarchy period in the history of local government was that District Boards and Municipalities with their atmosphere of local personalities and party cliques were not the right units for managing this vital services. In the earlier period social services had to be provided from the meagre resources of local bodies, who concentrated mainly on education to the detriment of communications, public health, water supply and sanitation. Even the few services that were developed in some of the major provinces seemed to be the accident of government policy. District officials, with evanescent enthusiasm, practically controlled the affairs of local bodies. Public opinion was not sufficiently well developed. Even where an undertaking was strated in a town or a village it was found difficult to keep it going.

"A great deal of the success or failure of local governments, particularly Panchayats, depends upon the presiding deity, the Chairman, who should in all cases be a man of parts, with capacity for leadership, educated and experienced enough to imbibe and adopt modern ideas of sanitation, agricultural improvement, education, etc. He must devote his time and energy to his work in a selfless manner. On the other hand the villagers themselves must whole-heartedly co-operate by avoiding the creation of unnecessary factions. A radical change in the social attitude of the vallagers is indicated. Government on its part should divest itself of needless control over local bodies and leave the affairs of a village to be managed entirely by the villagers themselves. An appeal should be made to villagers to shake off there present social inhibitions and work for the common good. Extensive propaganda in the matter of public health, environmental hygiene, etc., compulsory primary education, education of adults by night classes, establishment of medical institutions and dispensaries, are some of the directions in which further advancement is still needed. The most important step that Government should take is to provide enough finances to local bodies to carry out their work efficiently.

"Fortunately, the Constitution of India has brought the organisation of Panchayats to the forefront. Article 40 of the Constitution provides that "the State shall take steps to organise Village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-Government". As rightly pointed out by our Pirme Minister, the basis of our political and judicial systems should be our Panchayats. The Second Five-Year Plan is going to be on the basis of development from the village upwards. Although some appreciable progress has been made by certain State Governments in recent years in the matter of setting up of Village Panchayats, the progress has not been uniform. The Central Ministry of Health felt that ideas on the subject should be pooled at a Conference of Local Self-Government and Panchayat Ministers in States. Such a Conference was held in Simla in June 1954 and certain important and far-reaching recommendations were made. These are being processed. The Central Ministry of Health are pursuing the matter vigorously and it hoped that substantial progress in the direction will soon be made."

F. A. O. Director General

Mr. B. R. Sen, India's Ambassador to Japan, on September 24 was elected as the Fourth Director-General of the U. N. Food and Agricultural Organization, at a special session of the F. A. O. General Conference in Rome.

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Available with :

1. **People's Book House,** 7, Bishweshwarnath Road, Lucknow.
2. **People's Book House,** Opp. B. N. College, Patna, Bihar.
3. **New Age Book Centre,** Godhulia, Banaras.

V/O MEZDUNARODNAYA KNIGA, MOSCOW 200, U.S.S.R.

SOVIET BOOKS

Many books on many topics are published annually in the Soviet Union, including translations of foreign authors and various works in the English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Arabian and Japanese languages.

Great attention in the USSR is given to children's literature. The novels, narratives and fairytales in verse and prose about nature and people, about friendship and work, stories showing what little men and women should be like, present a view of the world surrounding the children.

As is known, children of school age want new books—"more grown-up"—and these are extensively supplied by the Soviet publishing houses.

A special place among Soviet publications belongs to science and technics. There is a great demand for popular science.

The well known English writer Jack Lindsay in the "Literaturnaya Gazeta" of October 5, 1955, remarked that a growing interest in the Soviet point of view and Soviet methods may be observed everywhere, and interest displayed by the most varied specialists, from the historians who met their Soviet colleagues at the congress in Rome to the scientists who took part in the discussions of questions of atomic energy.

The bulk of scientific literature, however, is devoted to research, scientific monographs and the works of eminent Soviet scientists. The Library of the United States' Congress, Harvard and California Universities and the Library of the British Museum are constant buyers of Soviet scientific books in various spheres of knowledge. Particularly in demand are the works of such famous Russian scientists as Pavlov, Mechnikov, Lomonosov, Timiryazev, Tsiolkovsky, Vavilov, Chebyshev, Krylov and Michurin as well as the works of the scientific research institutes.

An important place belongs to socio-political literature, headed by the works of Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and V. I. Lenin. Their books on the development of nature and society, on the theory of revolution, and the construction of socialist and Communist societies have, indeed, come to be handbooks for millions of people in all walks of life.

The past years have witnessed an increase of publications on philosophy, history, law and political economy. In addition to the scientific monographs, fore runners of scientific socialism and modern public figures, large editions of pamphlets are printed to aid those studying these branches of science.

The export and import of literature is implemented by the Soviet foreign trade organization—the all-union association, "Mezdunarodnaya Kniga." Soviet literature today finds regular buyers in more than 50 countries.

"Soviet Books," a catalogue distributed by this all-union association, keeps the purchasers abreast of the new publications and annotates the works to be shortly released. The catalogues of books published in foreign languages are written in the languages of the books they announce.

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Soviet books are published in forty languages in various countries.

"Mezdunarodnaya Kniga" systematically arranges book displays at international fairs and exhibitions where foreign buyers may acquaint themselves with Soviet publications.

NOTICE OF TENDERS

KANPUR MUNICIPALITY

1. Sealed tenders are hereby invited for widening of Mahatma Gandhi Road and construction of footpaths from Colonelganj Police Station to overbridge over Gwaltoli Railway siding via Vivek Cinema.

   Time allotted. Six months.

   Amount of estimate Rs. 94,117/-

   Security. 5 percent.

   Earnest money 2 percent.

2. They will be received by the undersigned upto 3.0 P. M. of the 11-12-56. **After which no Tender will be received.**
3. Each tender shall accompany the original receipt in token of having deposited the earnest money viz. Rs. 1982/- in hard cash in the Municipal treasury. No tender without the receipt shall be considered.
4. Each tender should be in a sealed envelope which must be superscribed "Tender for work noted above and addressed to the Executive Engineer Municipal Board Kanpur."
5. Tenders to be on forms obtainable upto 2.30 P. M. of the 11-12-56 from the Municipal Office at Rs. 8/- per set of 2 copies and cost of tender will not be refunded after it is once purchased.
6. The Board does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and no reasons will be given for its rejection.
7. Further information can be obtained at the Executive Engineer's office between the hours of 11 A. M. and 4 P. M. every day except Sundays and Holidays.
8. The accepted tenderer will be required to deposit in cash the sum of Rs. 2724/- more to make up the security for the due performance of his contract.
9. (a) The contractors are required to fill in rates both in words and figuers otherwise the tender will not be considered.

   (b) The contractors are required to fill in rates item-by-item-reference to any estimate or schedules or quoting percentage above or below in the tender will not be considered.
10. Earnest money deposited for other works not transferable.
11. Earnest money will be forfeited in case tenderer wishes to withdraw his tender after it has been submitted.
12. Earnest money shall be forfeited in the event of the tenderer failing to execute the agreement within seven days from the date of acceptance of the tender.
13. Tenders will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer on 11-12-56 at 4 P. M. by the undersigned.
14. It will be published in the papers also.

SHOBHARAM,
Executive Engineer,
Municipal Board, Kanpur.

Civic Reports From States

Andhra

New Chief Minister

Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy was unanimously elected leader of the Andhra Pradesh Congress Legislature Party on October 21. His name was proposed by Mr. B. Gopala Reddy, Andhra's Chief Minister, and seconded by Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, Hyderabad Chief Minister. Mr. Sanjiva Reddy's elections was "expected and appropriate", according to Mr. B. Gopala Reddy, who assured him of unreserved cooperation in the tasks ahead. Mr. Sanjiva Reddy said he would not consent to be the leader of the party unless Mr. Gopala Reddy's goodwill and counsel were available to him.

Hyderabad became the capital of the enlarged Andhra Pradesh on November 1.

Mr. C. M. Trivedi continues Governor of the Andhra Pradesh.

Public Utilities Men's Strike

The 24-day strike by some 6,000 Government and Municipal workers of Hyderabad, formerly capital of Hyderabad and now of Andhra, was called off on October 30, after Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddi, leader-elect of the Andhra Pradesh Legislature Congress Party, had intervened in the dispute. Mr. Reddi announced that the State Government had agreed to pay 15 days' wages on October 31 in advance and, in addition, a bonus of one or two days' basic wages.

More than 4,000 Government and Municipal workers had gone on strike on October 6 demanding a wage rise. The strike affected the Water Works, Electricity Departments, Hyderabad Municipal Corporation employees, the P. W. D., the Malaria Control Section and the Public Gardens Establishment. These together employ 7,000 workers.

Mr. B. S. Mahadev Singh, President of the Socialist-led Mazdoor Sangh, which sponsored the strike, claimed that more than 6,000 workers had responded to the strike call, while official sources estimated the number of strikers at little more than 3,000.

Dr. G. S. Melkote, Labour Minister, in the Hyderabad Government said the same day that arrangements had been made to ensure the efficient maintenance of power supply and the water works. He said military personnel had been drafted for the maintenance of certain works and for protecting them.

The strike was the subject of an adjournment motion in the Hyderabad Assembly on October 8. Mr. Raja Ram (Socialist Party), who tabled the motion, said that it was because of the Government's intransigence and indifference that the workers felt compelled to resort to this extreme step. Mr. S. Rajalingam, Deputy Minister for Labour, maintained that the appointment of a two-member committee to re-examine the reports of the Wage Boards was a proof enough of the anxiety of the Government to effect a permanent settlement of the problem of fair wages.

Seven hundred workers of the Secunderabad Municipal Corporation on October 29 joined the 23-day old strike, demanding increase in basic wage and dearness allowance.

The Government notice threatening replacement, if they did not join work by October 29, had no effect as none of them turned up for duty. The workers, who joined the strike on October 29, included conservancy staff, water-works and drainage sections of the Corporation. The spokesman of the Hyderabad State Mazdoor Sangh said that the conservancy staff of the Secunderabad Cantonment areas numbering about 100 would also join the strike on October 30.

The Secunderabad Corporation had made arrangements to maintain the regular water supply and conservancy work with the help of casual labour and loyal workers.

The strike committee of the unions, which met on October 29, had rejected the offer of 15 days' wages as loan made by the Government, and decided to continue the strike.

The two-member Committee will also go into the question of interim relief and wages for the strike period.

Assam

Peaceful Approach To Naga Troubles

Addressing a public meeting in Jorhat on October 20, Prime Minister expressed the hope that Naga troubles would be over soon. A peaceful approach was needed to end the Naga problems, he said. Referring to the present operations in the Naga Hills, Mr. Nehru said he had issued instructions to all military officers not to coerce or harass in any way innocent people. Characterizing the Nagas' demand for independence as absurd he said Nagaland was part and parcel of India and the Nagas were as much independent as other Indians. The question of Naga independence, he said, therefore, did not arise. Referring to the hill tribes of Assam and NEFA, Mr. Nehru said he did not want to keep them as a museum piece. He wanted them to develop fully and harmoniously without affecting their local traditions and customs. As laid down in the Constitution he also wanted a gradual merger of NEFA with Assam but not before the tribes were fully developed.

Oil Refinery

Referring to the demand for the location of an oil refinery in Assam, Mr. Nehru said this questions was governed by technical factors and he had no hand in it. But he assured the people that Assam's oil industry would be developed and for it Assam's youth must learn the technical know-how instead of raising slogans.

Continuing, Mr. Nehru said Assam had a great future. If could prosper rapidly if the State's resources were exploited fully.

Operations Against Naga Rebels

Lt.-Gen. Thimayya, G.O.C.-in-Chief, Eastern Command, told Press correspondents in Imphal on October 16 that operations against rebel Naga concentrations in the disturbed Naga Hills district would be over before the end of October. The General, who estimated the strength of the rebels at about 2,500, with about 300 modern rifles and some muzzle loading guns, said the progress of military operations against them was beyond his expectations. Small gangs of hostile Nagas, numbering between 10 and 40, were now operating in the Naga Hills. They were harassing innocent villagers by robbing their valuables and looting their rations. These hostiles are also collecting arms and ammunition. After breaking these rebel concentrations, the General said, the army would begin chasing the small gangs in the Naga Hills.

On October 13 a civilian jeep driver was killed and another injured in an ambush by the Naga hostiles between Changti and Mokokchung, in the Naga Hills shortly after a military convoy had passed the road. He said the liberal Naga leaders were now making appeals to the Nagas to surrender arms and ammunition and to settle the political matters peacefully. More and more Nagas were joining the liberal party. The General said that it would be inhuman to use the IAF against "our own Indian citizens". He said that the rebel leader, A. Z. Phizo, was still in the Naga Hills.

According to a Jorhat message, about 15 armed Naga hostiles raided a merchant's shop at Gorjan, bordering the disturbed Naga Hills, on October 13 and looted cash and clothes valued at about Rs. 2,000.

The people of Jotsoma, a village which was the scene of intense Naga hostile activities, told Lt.-Gen. Thimayya, GOC, Eastern Command, when he visited the area on October 11, that after the expiry of the time-limit they would deny all facilities to the "renegades to resettle in their homes". They had decided to give a time-limit to the village's "misguided residents" to return.

Phizo's Associate Surrenders

Plhouthia Kire, Secretary of the Angami Tribal Council, and a top associate of A. Z. Phizo, surrendered to the Army authorities in the Naga Hills on September 29. He denounced the activities of rebel Nagas and called upon leaders to come out and work for the restoration of law and

order and co-operate with the Government as peaceful citizens.

Bihar

Patna Corporation Revenue Proposals

The Committee, appointed by the Patna Municipal Corporation under the chairmanship of Mr. B. P. Golwara, Deputy Mayor, has put forward proposals for raising the income of Patna Municipal Corporation by about Rs. 13 lakhs. The Committee had been asked to suggest measures for raising the income of the Corporation from sources other than professional tax, which is being pressed by the Bihar Government. According to this Committee the professional tax will fetch only Rs. 4 lakhs as against Rs. 13 lakhs estimated from the sources suggested by the Committee.

The Committee has suggested that half of the revenue realised by the Government from the duty on electric consumption should be made over to the Corporation. If this is not feasible, a tax at the rate of one pice per unit of electric consumption should be imposed and the proceeds should be diverted to the funds of the Corporation.

A Corporation tax at the rate of two pice per maund on all goods unloaded at or sent out from Patna Junction, Patna City, Gulzarbagh, Patna Ghat, Digha Ghat through railway receipts, has been suggested. This will bring in Rs. 3 lakhs.

The Committee has also asked that half of the income drived from entertainment tax should be handed over to the Corporation. This would bring Rs, 2.25 lakhs to the Corporation. If this is not possible, the Corporation should be authorised to impose a surcharge of 12.5 per cent. on cinemas and theatres.

The Committee has also recommended that half of the registration charges realised by the Government should be given to the Corporation.

The Committee is also of the view that the revision of assessment to be undertaken shortly will increase the revenue of the Corporation by Rs. 5 lakhs.

Bombay

New Chief Minister

Mr. Y. B. Chavan, the youngest member of the former Bombay Cabinet, was elected leader of the Congress Party in the enlarged State of Bombay at the special meeting in Bombay of the Legislature Congress Party in the Reorganised State on October 16. Mr. Chavan polled 333 votes as against 111 cast in favour of Mr. Hiray. The contest batween the two Maharashtrian leaders took place after Mr. Morarji Desai had stoutly refused to yield on the principle that the choice of the leadership should be unanimous. Mr. Chavan himself had nominated Mr. Desai for the leadership. Despite a general clamour. Mr. Desai stuck to his decision not to contest the election, a decision which caused disappointment among a vast section of the gathering.

New Governor

Mr. Sri Prakasa, the Madras Governor, has been named the new Governor of Bombay. He will take over from Mr. M. C. Chagla. The Acting Governor in November.

Greater Bombay's Boundaries Enlarged

The Bombay Legislative Assembly on October 23 passed an official Bill seeking to extend the limits of the Greater Bombay Municipal Corporation. Mr. Y. B. Chavan, Minister for Local Self-Government, who piloted the Bill, replying to Opposition criticisms, denied that the Bill was prompted by any political consideration. He said the population of Bombay City had greatly increased and a comprehensive plan was essential. This could be achieved only if further areas were brought within the limits of the city.

Mr. Chavan said it was no use entering into an academic discussion on what would be the ideal size of a city and whether they should allow cities to become overpopulated. Whether they liked it or not, Bombay city had grown to its present size and there were prospects of its further growth in future. The question they had to consider was whether they should not adopt measures for the city's development, viewing it purely as a town planning problem, he said.

Mr. Chavan pointed out that the Master Plan, prepared ten years ago, actually envisaged the merger of a far larger area with the city of Bombay than that proposed in the Bill.

Mr. Chavan agreed that there was much force in the criticism of Opposition members regarding the Corporation's failure to provide for the development of the areas which were merged with the city in 1950. It might be possible to lay down conditions while allowing grants-in-aid to the Corporation, making it obligatory on its part to provide for proper development of the merged areas.

Decentralisation of Administration

Mr. Shantilal Shah, Minister for Labour, reiterated in the Bombay Legislative Council that there were no linguistic or political considerations in the State Government's move to extend the limits of the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Mr. Shah said **that the idea of decentralisation of administration was good. But, he said, that it would be better to leave the question to the Corporation to decide in the interest of civic administration.** He was of the opinion that the suburban areas stood to benefit considerably by their merger with the Corporation.

Objects of Bill

The Statement of the objects and reasons of the Bill says:

The decision of Parliament to form a bigger bilingual State of Bombay with effect from November 1, 1956 is likely to lead to a large influx of population into the city from the new areas to be merged in the existing Bombay State. It is also likely that the importance of Bombay as a political, Commercial, industrial, and educational centre will increase considerably necessitating plans for development which it may not be possible to implement within the existing limits of the city.

The Bombay Municipal Corporation considers that the growing dependence of the outlying areas on the city proper for essential services and the necessity of having a co-ordinated Plan for development have made it imperative that the limits of the Bombay Corporation should be further extended so as to cover the outlying areas. The Corporation has, accordingly, requested the Government to take immediate steps to merge the following areas: (1) Borivli taluka of Thana district, except the villages of Bhayander, Dongri, Ghodbunder, Kashi, Mire, Murdhe and Uttan; (2) the villages of Mulund and Nahur, in Thana taluka, Thana district, in the present Greater Bombay to enable the co-ordinated development of the present Greater Bombay and these areas on proper lines.

Civic Address For Earl Attlee

Bombay Municipal Corporation presented a civic address to Earl Attlee, Britain's former Prime Minister, on October 11. The Mayor, Mr. Salebhoy Abdul Kader, read the address of welcome which, stated that Earl Attlee "will find an illustrious Place in the pages of Indian history, as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, who was instrumental in ushering in Indian independence." Indian freedom opened up a new chapter of goodwill and friendship between India and Britain and India had bacome a sovereign democtratic Republic, but chose freely to remain a member of the Commonwealth.

Replying to the civic adress, Earl Attlee named India as a "protagonist of democracy and good government in Asia."

Earl Attlee said he himself was "a minor Mayor of a minor city (he was the first Labour Mayor of Stepney in 1919 and was an alderman for the next six years,)" and Mayors had always people's housing problems to face. Civic bodies, he said, must tackle housing problems as "there is always a kind of human touch in municipal affairs." He was pleased to notice fine buildings coming up in Bombay.

Earl Attlee said Bombay was one of the "key cities" in the world "a great cosmopolitan city with great traditions — a meeting place of the East and West."

The Address, beautifully designed and illuminated in original colours of vellum

parchment paper, was presented in a sandal wood casket, engraved with ivory inlaid design.

Stronger Ties Between Britain and India

Speaking at a civic reception accorded to Earl Attlee and Countess Attlee by Jamnagar Borougo Municipality on October 21, Earl Attlee said that the ties of friendship between Britain and India had grown stronger since India attained independence in 1947. Instead of their being a break in the relations **there were now more Britons in India and more Indians in Britain today.**

The Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, Rajpramukh of Saurashtra, presided over the civic function.

India's Experiment In Democracy

Earl Attlee, speaking at a reception accorded to him in Rajkot on October 13, said he felt great pleasure in witnessing the "extension of democracy now right through Asia and Africa." **Democracy was ceasing to be the preserve of one race.**

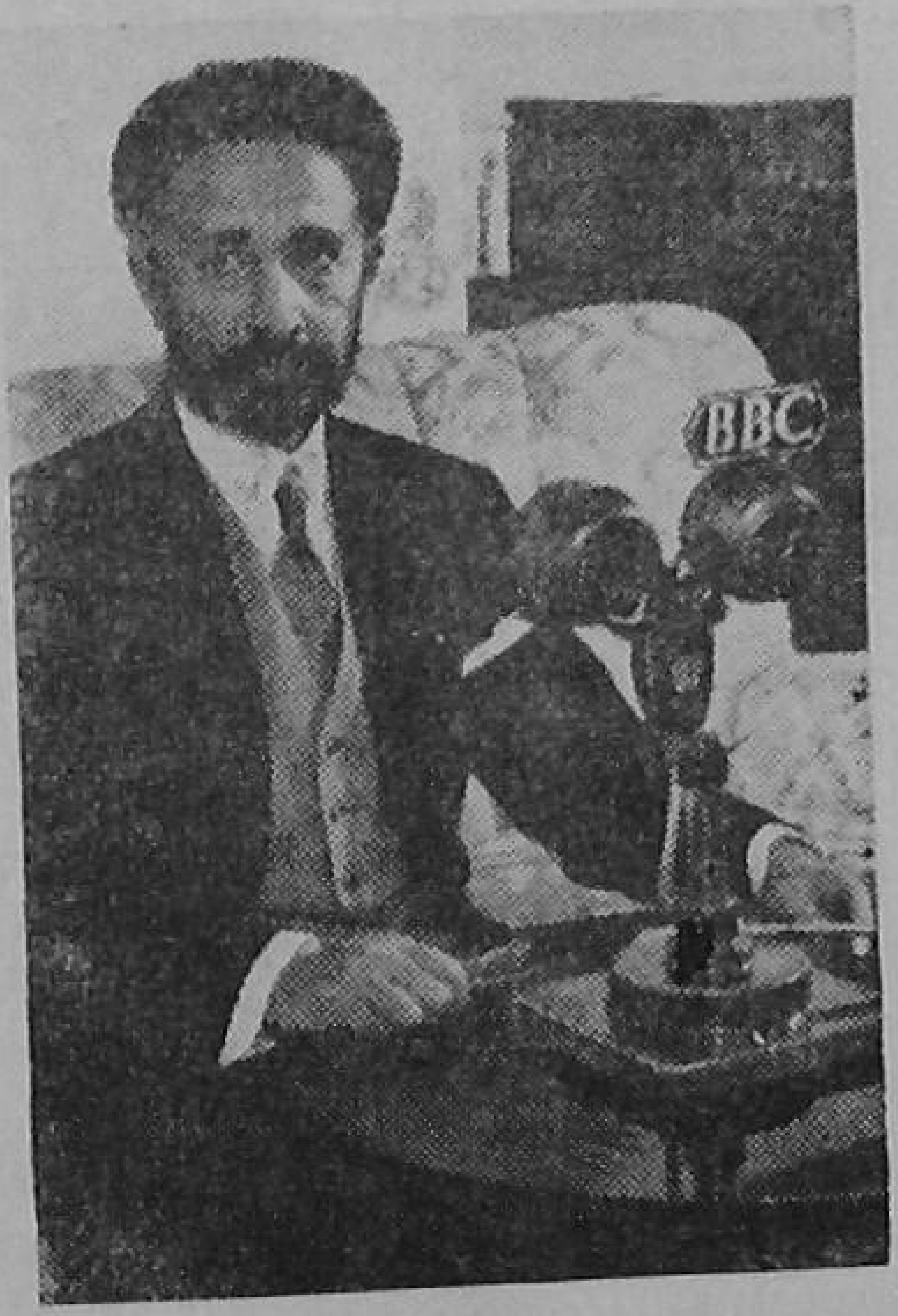
Earl Attlee said he was now an "old and outworn" politician but "I am an old servant of democracy." While the future of democracy was being doubted in many parts of the world his mind was turning to Asia and more particularly to India, because in many parts of Asia democracy was unknown.

The experiment in democracy in India, he said, was being watched by many nations of the world with great interest. Earl Attlee described the last Indian general elections as "a great one unprecedented in its magnitude."

Civic Address For Emepror Haile Selassie,

Bombay Municipal Corporation gave a civic reception to His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, on October 25 in the Kamla Nehru Park. The Mayor of Bombay, Mr. Salebhoy Abdul Kader, said that Bombay considered it a "great privilage to be the first to greet His Majesty."

Replying to the address, His Imperial Majesty said that India and Ethiopia stood to gain from closer co-operation and greater understanding in view of the similarities in the two countries' policies and outlook. He said: "This great city of Bombay has already made its name very famous in our country, by reason of its being the important outlet through



Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia.

which we transact the greater part of our commerce with India." And, "as the most important port on the western shores of this sub-continent, Bombay has a tremendous role to play in the ever-expanding economic relations of India with outside world."

Morarji Desai's Advice To Cityfathers

Bombay's Chief Minister. Mr. Morarji Desai, unveilled the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the Bombay Municipal Corporation Hall on October 27. Mr. Desai expressed the hope that the presence of the statue of the Father of the Nation in the hall would remind the city-fathers of his teachings and help them render self-less service to the citizens. **He said that the cityfathers should keep party quarrels out of the Corporation and the citizens' welfare and interest must be held uppermost in**

their minds in the conduct of the business of the House. They should render service without looking for any reward.

The Mayor of the Corporation announced that the life-size statue had been given by Mr. Jamnadas K. Kothari, a member of the Corporation, to be installed in the eastern end of the Hall.

Dr. Ambedkar's Warning

Replying to an address presented by the Nagpur Municipal Corporation, the Scheduled Castes leader, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, a former Law Minister, of India, warned the people on October 15 that **if the dictatorial tendency in the Congress was not checked, the country would be ruined. He said that the Congress was being conducted on the basis of personal allegiance. There was a tendency in that party towards dictatorship, he said.**

The Congress Central Parliamentary Board set up candidates for both Parliament and State Legislatures and voters had very little chance to choose their own representatives whose character they knew. This system resulted in party dictatorship.

Dr. Ambedkar referred to the reported desire expressed by Mr. Morarji Desai to be elected unanimously as the Congress Party leader in Bombay State and his demand for absolute rights to choose his own nominees as Ministers of his Cabinet and said that such demands were nothing short of dictatorship.

He said that India had framed her own Constitution, but those who were entrusted with its working were not alive to their responsibilities, nor were the voters aware of their rights. In such circumstances, there was a danger of failure in the working of democracy and the establishment of personal rule by a few individuals.

The welcome address presented by the Mayor, Mr. R. P. Samarth, referred to Dr. Ambedkar's embrace of Buddhism and expressed the hope that he would succeed in promoting peace and ahimsa.

Sholapur Injunction

The Civil Judge, Sholapur, has issued an interim injunction restraining the President and the Chief Officer of the Sholapur Municipality from inviting five former Councillors to Municipal meetings. These Councillors had resigned in March last along with 12 others on the Samyukta Maharashtra issue. Two sitting members of the Municipality had filed a suit against the President and the Chief Officer, contending that issuing invitations to attend Municipal meetings to Councillors who had resigned was illegal and *ultra virrs* the Municipal Act.

Nasik's Water Supply

Mr. Y. B. Chavan, Minister for Local Self-Government, assured a deputation of the Nasik Municipality, led by the President of the Municipality, Dr. Y. S. Shukla, on October 9 that the State Government would sanction grants-in-aid and loans for the execution of the Municipality's water supply scheme as soon as it was approved by the Public Health Engineer. The present water supply system, laid 40 years ago, had become inadequate for the increased population, which has increased from 40.000 to about 100,000. The Municipality is now supplying 2.4 million gallons of water a day at the rate of 25 gallons per head.

Nine Hour Municipal Meeting

The police were called in as a precautionary measure at the meeting of the Hubli Municipal Council on October 3, after hot words had been exchanged between some members of the Opposition and the ruling party. The Council sat continuously for nine hours—till 2-30 a. m.—to complete an agenda of 70 items. The Opposition staged a walk-out at 12-30 a.m. when the President refused to adjourn the meeting for the next day or for a short recess. Till about 12-30 only 13 items had been disposed of. Most of the decisions were made on the casting vote of the President as the Opposition and the ruling party were almost equally divided.

Delhi

Corporation for Delhi

Mr. M. D. Bhatt, I. C. S., Chairman of the Central Board of Film Censors, has been

asked by the Union Home Ministry to draft legislation for a Corporation of Delhi The Corporation will be similar to the Bombay Municipal Corporation. Mr. Bhatt was the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay before he took over as Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Mr. Ishwar Dayal, Secretary of the Delhi Municipal Committee, has joined the Special Wing of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, which is dealing with the preparation of a Bill for the setting up of a Corporation in Delhi.

Mr. Dayal will be associated in this work with Mr. A. V. Venkatasubban, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health, and a representative of the Ministry of Law.

Referring to Delhi's future civic administration, the Chief Commissioner, Mr. A. D. Pandit, in his address to the Delhi Chambers of Commerce on October 24 said that the existing pattern of local self-government in which there were nearly a dozen bodies with overlapping jurisdiction would give way to some rational arrangement in the form of a Corporation for the maintenance of civic services. Mr. Pandit said that the proposed Corporation would take over the functions of the Delhi District Board by including rural areas in its jurisdiction. A village panchayat, he added, would be the smallest unit of local self-government for villages and would function within a restricted sphere and provide such services to the inhabitants of villages as were within its means. The Corporation, he said, would be responsible for more expensive services such as roads, dispensaries, veterinary hospitals and schools.

He expressed the hope that with the rise in the status of municipal authority, there would be a distinct improvement in the calibre of people seeking election. The Government would see that Corporators beautified the city as a whole, not only their own localities.

The Delhi State Praja-Socialist Party has demanded enhanced powers and enlarged areas for the proposed Delhi Corporation. It has criticised the agitation by a section of New Delhi residents for keeping the areas under the New Delhi Municipal Committee out and urged that the Union Government should pay no heed to such agitations.

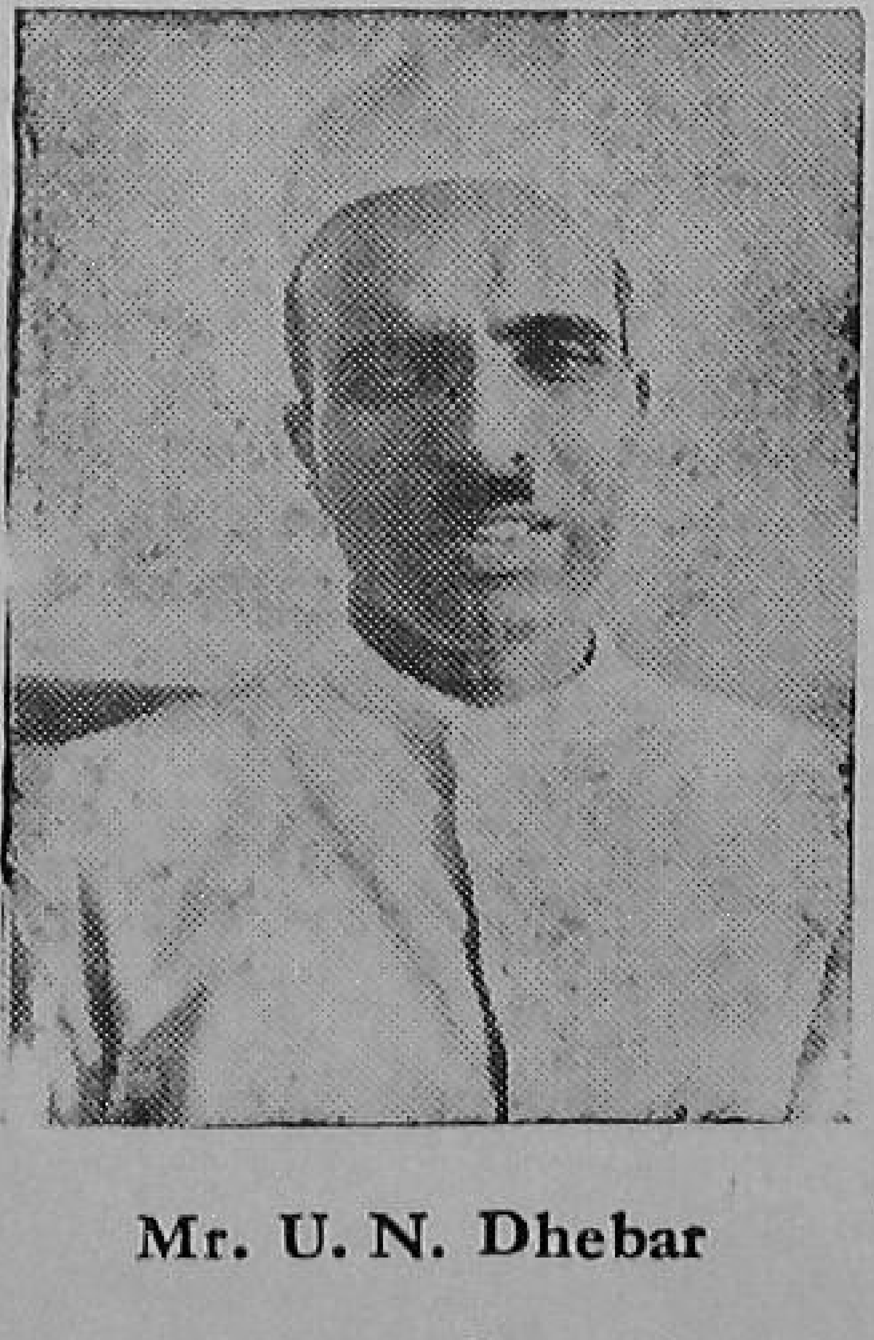
Ad Hoc Bodies

The Party has also disapproved the Government's proposal to keep the Delhi Development Authority out of the proposed Corporation. It is of the view that all the statutory bodies, including the D. D. P. A., the Improvement Trust, the Water Board, the Electricity Authority and the Transport Service, should be merged with the Corporation.

Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani, who presided over a meeting convened by the State Praja-Socialist Party, said the S. R. C. report had suggested a civic corporation for the entire State having all areas within its jurisdiction and power over all the existing statutory bodies. The Government had no justification to modify the S. R. C. recommendations.

Delhi: Most Important Capital in World

Inaugurating the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations organised by the Delhi Municipal



Mr. U. N. Dhebar

Committee on September 29, Mr. U. N. Dhebar, Congress President, appealed to the municipal commissioners to take a pledge that by the next Gandhi Jayanti they "shall have cleared the slums" in

Delhi. This, he pointed out, had been the keen desire of Mahatma Gandhi. Mr. Nehru was also in favour of it.

Mr. Dhebar believed that Delhi was the most important capital in the world at present. "The responsibilities of those working for the betterment of Delhi are heavy. They have to make it a model for the whole country". "Delhi", he said, "has been India's capital through the ages and, as far as I can see, it will continue to be so for a long time". Mr. Dhebar assured the Municipal President of his co-operation as a citizen of Delhi.

D.M.C. To Levy Show Tax

The Delhi Municipal Committee at its meeting on Oct. 10 decided to levy a Theatre Show tax and to publish proposals inviting or objections and suggestions. The proposal has been approved by the Chief Commissioner already. The decision is expected to give the Committee an income of Rs. 2 lakhs. The proposed tax is distinct from the Entertainment Tax as the incidence of the new tax will fall primarily on the owners, of the theatres or the organizers of the shows while that of the latter on those who attend the performances. The decision is in keeping with the recommendations of the Taxation Inquiry Commission which included Theatre or Show tax as one of the possible items of revenue of local bodies. It was pointed out at the meeting that the theatre tax was not a new tax and was already being levied in certain other States besides the Entertainment Tax.

The Committee has in its jurisdiction 18 regular cinema houses which give 22 shows a week. Circuses or carnivals also come to the city every year and various other entertainment programmes are held in different parts of the city.

Terminal Tax To Go Up

Delhi Municipal Committee is likely to increase Terminal Tax on various items. The Executive and Finance Sub-Committee of the Delhi Municipal Committee has also decided in this favour and asked the office to prepare a list of items on which Terminal Tax can be increased.

A joint machinery of the Delhi Municipal Committee, the New Delhi Municipal Committee and Notified Area Committee, Civil Station, is now responsible for collecting Terminal Tax. The Shahdara Municipal Committee charges Terminal Tax separately. It has yet to be decided whether the South Delhi Municipal Committee and the West Delhi Municipal Committee can collect Octroi Tax or Terminal Tax.

N. D. M. C. Secretary

Mr. P. L. Sondhi took over as Secretary of the New Delhi Municipal Committee on October 9.

Jammu & Kashmir

New Constitution

Jammu and Kashmir State's draft Constitution was presented to the Constituent Assembly in Srinagar on October 10 by Mr. Girdharilal Dogra, Finance Minister and Chairman of the Drafting Committee. The draft, which has 158 clauses and six schedules, says that the territories of the State comprise all those areas which on August 15, 1947, were under the sovereignty or suzerainty of the Ruler of the State. According to the draft Jammu and Kashmir "is and shall be an integral part of the Union of India".

The draft Constitution aims at securing liberty, equality, fraternity and justice for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. It provides for a bicameral legislature. The Legislative Assembly will consist of 100 members to be chosen by direct election on the basis of adult franchise. Twenty-five seats in the Assembly are proposed to be kept vacant for representatives of the people living in Pakistan occupied areas of the State. The Legislative Council will consist of 36 members. Twenty-two of them, 11 each from Jammu and Kashmir including Ladakh, will be elected by the Legislative Assembly from among the residents of the two provinces. Eight will be elected by municipal committees, town area and notified area committees and panchayats, while six others will be nominated by the Sadr-i-Riyasat.

The draft Constitution provides for a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at its head to be collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly.

The executive and legislative powers of the State extend to all matters except those regarding which Parliament has powers to make laws for the State.

The draft provides for the Head of the State to be known as Sadr-i-Riyasat, who will be elected by the Legislative Assembly for a term of five years. The Sadr-i-Riyasat will be recognized by the President of India and hold office during his pleasure. The Sadr-i-Riyasat must be a permanent resident of the State and is removoable from his office by the President if two-thirds of the members of the Legislative Assembly so desire.

The Sadr-i-Riyasat will exercise his functions on the advice of the Council of Ministers except in the case of a breakdown of the constitutional machinery, in which even he can assume to himself all or any functions of the Government, but he can make no such proclamation without the concurrence of the President of India.

The Sadr-i-Riyasat will appoint an Advocate-General, Election Commission and Public Service Commission for the State, and the Chief Justice and the Judges of the High Court.

Every civil servant will hold office during the pleasure the Sadr-i-Riyasat. The official language of the State will be Urdu but English will also continue till the Legislature provides otherwise.

The Constituent Assembly on October 25 passed the first reading of the draft constitution. Winding up the general dabate, the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, Mr. Girdharilal Dogra, said the Constituent Assembly was within its rights to finalize the State's accession to India.

India's Aid For Development

"Over Rs. seven crores have been received from the Government of India since 1950 for the development of Jammu and Kashmir State and the entire amount has been spent", said Mr. D. P. Dhar, Deputy Home Minister, replying to a question in the State Assembly on October 15.

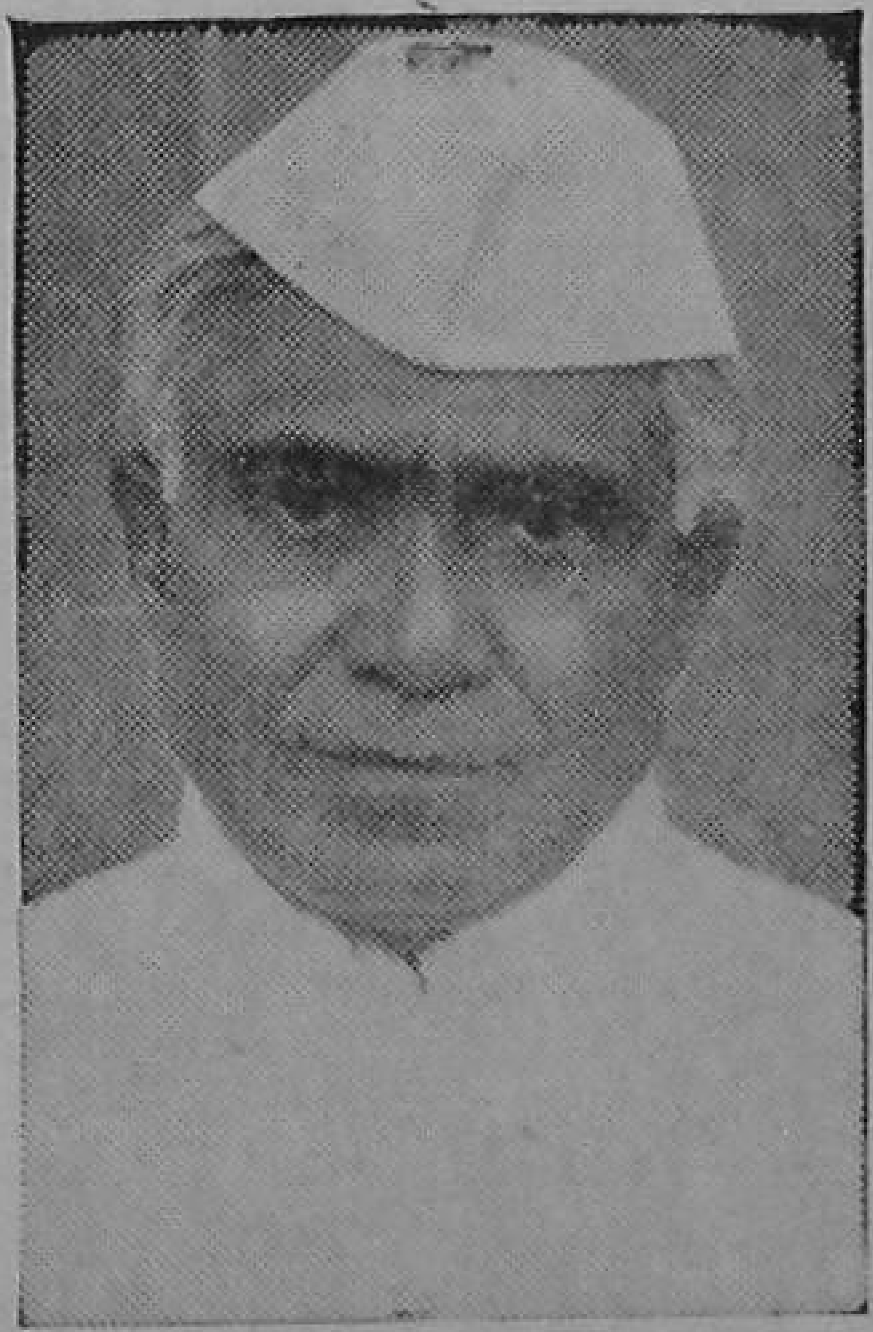
Jammu's Water Supply

The State Development Minister informed the Kashmir State Assembly on October 15 that Rs. 30 lakhs would be spent for water supply in Jammu during the second Five-Year Plan.

Kerala

Mr. P. S. Rau's Work For State

The Adviser to the Rajpramukh, Mr. P. S. Rau, who is officiating as Governor of Kerala from November 1, will give up



Shri B. Ramakrishna Rao,
First Governor of Kerala.

his post after the Governor-designate, Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, is sworn in. Mr. Rau is returning to Bihar as Chairman of the Damodar Valley Corporation.

As Adviser to the Rajpramukh and as acting-Governor, Mr. Rau has been concentrating on streamlining the administration to bring it on a par with other Part A States in India, since he came to the State eight months ago.

Mr. Rau has overhauled and reorganised all key departments and brought them

in line with their counterparts in other States.

He has delegated all necessary power to district collectors for the first time in the administrative history of the State. A huge building programme has been started to house the district headquarters and policemen,

A vigorous anti-corruption drive has also been launched.

Civic Address To Ethiopian Emperor

The Municipal Corporation of Trivandrum presented a civic address to His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, on November 1. The address presented to the Emperor by the Mayor of Trivandrum, Sri Ponnara G. Sreedhar, hailed His Majesty as "one having the unique distinction of being the first to find out and reveal to the world the true nature of Fascism and resist Fascist aggression long before other nations realised the necessity for doing so".

Replying to the address, the Emperor said that in the course of his brief tour in the State of Kerala he was able to sense the atmosphere of religious and communal peace and tranquillity that characterised the life in the State. The high standard of education in the State was an "achievement of which the people can justly be proud", he said.

Municipal Councils' Protest

Fifteen out of the 26 Municipal Councils in Travancore-Cochin State have offered unanimous support to the Alleppey Municipal Council's opposition to the recent State Government order directing them to collect with retrospective effect certain taxes exempted by the municipality. Delegates from the 15 municipal councils adopted at a conference in Alleppey on October 14 a resolution expressing their "emphatic protest" against the State Government's order. The conference also called upon all municipal councils in the State to observe October 25 as " Protest Day ".

The Alleppey Municipal Council had in 1953 granted tax exemption to persons whose property income was Rs. 60 and below. But, under certain specific rules of the Travancore-Cochin Municipalities Act, the ceiling on exemption is only Rs. 18. While the two dissolved Governments of the Praja-Socialists and the Congress had not interfered with the implementation of this resolution by the municipality, the present Government has directed the municipality to collect the tax with retrospective effect on the ground that Alleppey was financially a deficit municipality.

Mr. T. V. Thomas. Chairman of the Alleppey Municipal Council and convener of the conference, refuted the Government's contention that Alleppey was a deficit municipality, and said the exemption measure had brought benefit to 18,000 out of the 20,000 property holders in the town and had cost the municipality only Rs. 15,000 per year.

Seven Municipal Chairmen, with Mr. T.V. Thomas as leader, were elected to wait in deputation on the Adviser to the Rajpramukh.

Corporation Resolution on Capital

The Trivandrum Municipal Corporation on October 4 adopted a unanimous resolution urging the Central and State authorities "not to take any step for shifting the capital or encourage any action that would help shifting the capital from Trivandrum city ". There has been a demand for shifting the capital to the former Cochin State.

Madhya Pradesh

Mr. R. S. Shukla: Chief Minister

Congress members to the Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat, Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh Legislatures, who met in Nagpur on October 16 unanimously elected Mr. Ravi Shanker Shukla leader of the Congress Party in the enlarged Madhya Pradesh Assembly. The Madhya Bharat Chief Minister, Mr. Takhtmal Jain, proposed Mr. Shukla's name which was supported by the Chief Ministers of Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh.

New Capital

Bhopal, the picturesque city of lakes, has gone through an upheaval to provide accommodation for the Government of

the new State of Madhya Pradesh, whose capital it has become from November 1.

The Vidhan Sabba of the new State will be housed in a post-graduate college. The city courts has been shifted to the Municipal office, which have been accommodated in an old palace. The Public Works Department has been shifted to a High School. Several gazetted officers of Bhopal, staying in Government houses, have vacated their old premises to make room for the incoming staff.

Bhopal according to a newspaper report, today presents the appearance of a far-flung refugee camp in the throes of a big resettlement.

The Governor of the State has been lodged in the Lal Kothi, which at one time, was the residence of the British Political Agent. For the last seven years it has been the residence of the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Minister is staying in the House, which once lodged Bhopal's Inspector-General of Police.

Indore Municipal Strike Threat

Mr. Ishwar Chandra Jain, president of the Indore Municipal Council on October 25 advised the Municipal employees to withdraw their strike notice and negotiate with him for the revision of pay scales and increments. The two unions of the employees had served a strike notice on the Municipality on October 11 and the strike was to begin on October 27, later postponed to October 31.

The Municipality had revised the salary of its employees only this month and decided to give effect to this decision from April this year, while the employees wanted it to be given from October last year.

Madras

Civic Address for Earl Attlee

Speaking at a civic reception given by the Madras Corporation on October 15, Earl Attlee said India had to work out its democracy and political institutions in accordance with the national genius of its people.

The Mayor, Mr. Ramnatha Iyer, who read an address of welcome, presented a silver Asoka Pillar mounted with gold lions to Earl Attlee.

Earl Attlee said he wanted to see, in his lifetime, India make great advance to freedom and take its full and equal place in the British Commonwealth of Nations and in the U. N. The British, he said, had been in India for a long period and did some useful work. As time went on, they—Indians and the British—could look back on it with satisfaction.

General Election In India

Earl Attlee added: "Now, we have this great nation marching forward on the road of democracy. It is the most difficult form of government, but it is the only one which is worthy of self-respecting people. India has a particular position as the leading democratic nation in Asia. I am glad you (Mayor) referred to the General Election (in India). I can remember the days when people were sceptical as to whether an election could be possible. It was a great and triumphant demonstration of democracy and the biggest election in the history of the world. You are having a great democracy here. All your democracy and political institutions have to be worked out, to my mind, in accordance with the national genius of the people. You cannot translate the experience of one nation straightway to another. It has to be interpreted".

Speaking about parliamentary procedure, Earl Attlee said he had found it quite remarkable that not only the technique but the spirit of British Parliament were reproduced here.

The one thing that struck him during his visit to India he said, was the enormous growth of Madras, like Bombay city and the expansion of the country. The problem for all Governments and for all municipal bodies was how to plan confidently for the expanding life. He was sure, however, that India was going to see the success of its Plan. Success of the Plan, he said, depended partly on Government leadership and partly on careful planning by experts.

But one should remember that democracy was essentially the work of the people by themselves and unless people took active part it was quite easy for democracy to decay into autocracy.

New Governor

Mr. A. J. John, a former Chief Minister of Travencore-cochin has been named the Governor of Madras when Mr. Sri Prakasa goes to Bombay.

Madras Trust Slum Clearance Plans

Madars Government have asked the Chairman of the Madras City Improvement Trust and Cemmissioner of the Corporation to select suitable sites for provision of open plots on the outskirts of the town as well as for construction of pucca structures in the heart of the town wherever practicable in connection with the Slum Clearance Scheme. The Chairman of the Trust had recommended that one thousand acres of land with proper layouts may be acquired all round the city, to accommodate about 29,000 families of slum dewellers, (who will be squeezed out as surplus when the present slums in the city are improved) and 6,500 families of pavement dwellers.

The State Government have also informed the Trust that the question of undertaking special legislation, to keep down the price of lands that may have to be acquired for housing surplus slum families, is under consideration of the Government.

The suggestion of the Trust that a date may be fixed and a notification published for general information, and enforced strictly, that slum which have come or may come into existence after this deadline will be evicted and cleared and not improved as in the case of older slums is also under consideration of the Government.

Mysore

New Chief Minister

Mr. S. Nijalingappa, M. P., was unanimously elected leader of the new Mysore Congress Legislature Party, at a joint meeting of all the five constituent units of the new State held in Bangalore in October under the presidentship of Mr. K. P. Madhavan Nair, General Secretary of the Congress.

A last-minute withdrawal by Mr. Kadidal Manjappa, Chief Minister of Mysore, facilitated the unanimous election of 55-year old Mr. Siddavanahalli Nijalingappa, Mr. Manjappa himself proposed Mr. Nijalingappa's name.

Rajpramukh Becomes Governor

The Rajpramukh of Mysore has been appointed the first Governor of the new and enlarged Mysore State. He is the only Rajpramukh of the former Part "B" States, now abolished, who has been retained as the head of a State.

Orissa

New Ministry

The new Orissa Congress Ministry, headed by Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab, was sworn in by the Governor, Mr. Bhimsen Sachar, on October 19.

The Orissa Assembly Congress Party on October 9 had accepted Mr. Nabakrushna Chaudhuri's resignation from the leadership of the Party and elected in his place Dr. Harekrushna Mahatab. Mr. Chaudhuri has resigned the leadership of the party to devote himself to constructive work, espeacially the Bhoodan movement He first offered to resign three years ago. Mr. Chaudhuri has also resigned his four-anna membership of the Congress.

Pondicherry

New Chief Commissioner

Mr. M. K. Kripalani, Chief Commissioner of Ajmer, has been appointed Chief Commissioner of Pondicherry in place of Mr. Kewal Singh.

Punjab

Sardar Kaiorn's Unanimous Election

The Chief Minister, Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon, was unanimously elected leader of the Congress Legislature Party of the integrated Punjab at a joint meeting

in Chandigarh on October 19 of the Congress Legislatures of the Punjab and P. E. P. S. U. Sardar Kairon's name was proposed by Mr. Brish Bhan, Chief Minister of P. E. P. S. U.

Local Bodies Reorganisation

Addressing a conference of presidents, vice-presidents, and secretaries of local bodies in Jullundur district, Mr. Ram Kishen, Deputy Minister for Local Self-Government, said Local Bodies were the foundation of democratic government and were training centres in efficient administartion and good citizenship. The municipalities, like the panchayats, had to play a vital role in national reconstruction and there should be complete co-ordination between the elected members and the staff for efficient administration.

The Deputy Minister disclosed that there was a proposal to set up a provincial co-ordination board under the Minister for Local Bodies. Similarly, each district would have co-ordination boards. Like the Panchayats Department, there would be a Local Bodies Directorate and also a technical organization. It would be imperative, he added, to train new municipal employees for their respective jobs. He also hinted at the formation of a central association of representatives of municipalities which would meet from time to time and discuss their common problems.

Mr. Ram Kishan suggested that like Legislative Councils, the Municipalities should also have one-fifth of members representing various professions. Even students should be associated to enable them to learn civic sense and discipline.

Mr. Durga Dutta, President of the Jullundur Municipal Committee, acquainted the Minister with the defects of existing Municipal Act and suggested that Municipalities should be in a position to delegate powers to presidents and vice-presidents.

Directorate of Local Bodies

Replying to a civic address presented by the Ludhiana Municipal Committee on October 23, Mr. Ram Kishan, said

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that the State Government was contemplating to set up a directorate of local bodies, a services selection board and a co-ordination board of various departments both at the State and district levels to eliminate red-tapism and the consequent inordinate deley in their working. He added that municipal commissioners would be entrusted with powers to help in the smooth working of local bodies. Local Bodies would be graded on the basis of their population and financial position. A greater sense of security to municipal employees, provincialization of key posts of executive officers and secretaries, more powers to presidents, executive officers and municipal commissioners, contribution from the State exchequer of a share of income from taxes on property, cinemas and transport, etc., were some of the highlights of the proposal.

Mr. Ram Kishan said the present Punjab Municipal Act was totally out of date and revolutionary changes were needed therein to bring it in line with the new requirements and ideals of free India. The changes were proposed to be introduced following the recommendations of the Urban Local Bodies Inquiry Committee.

"Save Simla" Campaign

The executive committee of the Simla Municipal Employees' Federation has passed a number of resolutions urging the Central and Punjab Governments to take early steps to save Simla from ruination. A "Save Simla Committee" has been formed to implement the various programmes chalked out by the executive and pursue the demands. In a resolution the Central Government was urged to shift Ministerial offices to Simla during summer and allot accommodation to foreign embassies in Simla so that the town could get some flourishing trade at least during the summer season. It called upon the Punjab Government to issue immediate orders cancelling all transfers of their employees from Simla to Chandigarh, Patiala or other places. The Government was also urged to give to the Simla Municipal Committee at least 50 per cent. of the tax money collected from this district for the upkeep and maintenance of the "Queen of Hill Stations."

It was demanded that the Western Command authorities should give at least Rs. 5 lakhs to the Simla Municipal Committee annually as their goods came into the municipal limits without paying any taxes. While the army authorities were getting all facilities provided by the Municipality they were paying no taxes while the civilians were paying Rs. 30 lakhs by way of local taxes. The Municipal Committee and the district authorities were urged to provide more facilities for winter sports and to improve the surroundings of the picnic spots in and around Simla.

Municipal Supersession Wanted

The Simla District Congress Committee executive on October 20 passed a resolution by five votes to two urging supersession of the Simla Municipality, which it charged with serious irregularities. The resolution said supersession will help to restore the party's reputation in the district, so necessary with the General Elections to be held soon. The opponents of the resolution resigned from the executive, alleging irregularities in its working.

Indictment of Ludhiana Committee

Mr. V. P. Kapoor, in his inquiry report of the Ludhiana Municipal Committee's administration, said that the working of Ludhiana Municipal Committee has not been satisfactory. He says: "There is a regular battle going on between the secretary and the executive officer. The trouble arose because both of them contested the job of executive officer of the municipality.

"The municipal engineer not having been appointed so far, the municipal works are deteriorating. The sanitary conditions of the town are also not commendable for want of a whole-time municipal medical officer."

Jaitu Elections Stayed

Under orders of the Punjab High Court, municipal elections at Jaitu have been stayed. Polling was to have been held on October 25, and the information about the High Court's order was received when candidates were erecting polling

camps and all official arrangments had been completed. The stay order was passed by the High Court under a writ petition filed by a member, challenging the supersession of the old nominated small town committee.

Kapurthala Civic Body's President

Mr. Satya Paul Danda was elected President of the Kapurthala Municipal Committee on October 3, following the resignation of Mr. Surinder Dass Jain.

Rajasthan

Mr. M. L. Sukhadia's Unanimous Election

Mr. Mohanlal Sukhadia, Chief Minister of Rajasthan, was unanimously elected leader of the Congress Legislature Party of the reorganised Rajasthan State at a joint meeting of the Congress members of the State Assemblies of Rajasthan and Ajmer held in Jaipur on October 17. Mr. Haribhau Upadhayaya, Chief Minister of Ajmer who had announced his decision to contest the election, withdraw from the contest at the party meeting.

First Governor

Mr. Gurumukh Nihal Singh, Chief Minister of the Delhi State has been appointed the first Governor of Rajasthan, replacing the Maharaja of Jaipur who was the Rajpramukh of the State before its reorganisation.

Civic Address to President

A civic address was presented by the Chittor Municipality at a function held in Chittorgarh Fort, to the President Dr. Rajendra Prasad on October 9. The President called on the people to co-operate with the Government fully in implementing the various development schemes.

Tripura

New Chief Commissioner

Mr. K. P. Bhargava, Chief Commissioner of Bhopal, has been appointed Administrator of Tripura in succession to Major-General Hiralal Atal.

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Civic Affairs In Neighbouring Countries

Australia

Olympic Games In Melbourne

On November 22 the Duke of Edinburgh opened the Olympic Games in Melbourne, the youngest city ever to stage these games. This was a milestone in their 2700-year old history. They were the first to be held south of the Equater.

Melbourne, Australia's second city, was founded in 1835 by John Batman. In 1842 the "village" had a population of 14,000. To-day Melbourne's population is more than 12 laks. The city's streets were carefully planned by its founders to give an impression of orderliness, spaciousness and comfortable living.

More than a quarter of the city's total area consists of gardens and public parks. A narrow river, the Yarraw, runs through the city and is crossed by attractive low bridges.

Provisioning, catering and furnishing the Olympic Village for 74 nations has been one of the world's most complex housekeeping jobs. The organisers spent two years studying national foods, feast days and training regimens. The Village itself sets a new standard in Olympic housing. Every athlete and official will live in a brand new brick and concrete house or flat. Six years of planning and practical effort were needed to enable Melbourne to provide "the finest facilities in Olympic history." The £ A.6.6 million construction programme undertaken by the Olymic Games Committee has resulted in top-class stadiums and arenas, probably the finest collection of sports in the world.

Courtesy Week In Melbourne

Melbourne's Olympic Civic Committee and the Junior Chamber of Commerce had promoted a Courtesy Week from October 14 to 21 in Melbourne City and the State of Victoria in which Melbourne lies, to prepare the citizens for the Olympic Games which are being now staged in that city. About 25,000 persons from Overseas are expected to visit Melbourne which will be the principal venue for the games.

The campaign during the Courtesy Week reminded citizens of the importance of being courteous to Olympic visitors to make them feel welcome.

It was reminded that courtesy to each other and civic pride go hand in hand—that tidy nature-strips, hedges and gardens and a general sprucing-up of houses and business places can help create a pleasant atmosphere which would help make the Games memorable for visitors and Victorians alike.

The Olympic Civic Committee, which has handled the accommodation of most of the Olympic visitors in private homes in all suburbs of Melbourne has arranged that visitors will be given a distinctive badge which will identify them as visitors to whom courtesy should be extended.

The Courtesy Week campaign was extended into 650 State Schools and more than 200 Secondary Schools where Victorian children were asked to be courteous in their approach to visitors for autographs and to behave in a seemly manner while travelling in public or attending Olympic events.

Melbourne's Planning

Dr. F. W. Ledgar (40), first director of the University of Melbourne's new school of town and regional planning, who arrived in Australia from U.K. in August, (Dr. Ledgar, was formerly senior lecturer at the University of Manchester's department of town and country planning) in a summing-up of first impressions, criticised Melbourne's trams because they impeded city triffic; advocated tube or underground railways and the use of passenger buses to alleviate the traffic problems; praised the Master Plan for Melbourne; described shopping centres on main roads as being dangerous to the public and to traffic; warned that Melbourne's sprawl would have to stop because the metropolis was "too big"; and favoured a vigorous policy of decentralisation for strategic and economic reasons.

Former Lord Mayor is Now Federal Speaker

Mr. Jack McLeay, a former Lord Mayor of Adelaide, was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives in August. A keen supporter of municipal government, Mr. McLeay is chairman of and South Australian representative on, the committee which represents the Australian Council of Local Government Associations in Canberra.

Cambodia

Prime Minister Resigns

King Suramarit of Cambodia on October 15 announced acceptance of the resignation of the Prime Minister, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Prince Sihanouk's reasons for resignation were primarily budget problems. There had also been difficulties of reorganization in the Civil Service. He said: "Nobody will bear witness against officials allegedly guilty of corruption. The only testimonies have been in anonymous letters from my enemies and adversaries".

Prince Sihanouk, ex-King and twice Prime Minister, formed a new Cabinet on September 15 on the orders of King Suramarit to form a new Government and to end the month-old crisis caused by the resignation of Mr. Khim Tit as Premier. Prince Sihanouk abdicated in favour of his father in order to found the Popular Socialist Party which subsequently swept the polls to gain all 91 seats in the National Assembly. He resigned from his first period of Premiership last December.

Ceylon

Bandaranaike Government's Achievements

The Ceylon Prime Minister, Mr. Bandaranaike, answering questions relating to a series of strikes in industrial and Government undertakings since he assumed office, told a Press conference on October 3 that his People's United Front Government had accomplished in the last five months of office more than what its predecessor Government of United National Party had done during its entire tenure in office from 1948. "We have restored the good name and self respect of this country in the world when it had sunk to the lowest depths under the previous administration," he said.

He listed among the achievements of his Government: Reduction of price of rationed rice, restoration of free mid-day meal to school children, declaration of Sinhalese as the sole State language, the setting up of a Planning Council to deal with problems of development, initiation of steps to take over British bases in Ceylon and to declare Ceylon a Republic.

He said strikes were really a sign of resurgence of a people after a period of suppression. They did not indicate dissatisfaction of the people with the present administration.

Bus Service Nationalisation

The Ceylon Government has decided to nationalise bus service throughout the country early next year. Mr. Maltripala Senanayake, Minister for Transport and Works, in an interview, said he hoped to introduce a Bus Nationalisation Bill in Parliament during the latter part of December. The nationalised bus service will be placed under the control of a State corporation. Mr. Senanayake said he hoped to secure the services of experts from abroad to plan the nationalisation scheme. An expert from the U. K. is expected to advise on matters relating to compensation.

Chile

U. N. President

Dr. Jose Maza, the Chilean President of the 10th Session of the U. N. General Assembly, paid a nine-day visit to India in October.

Dr. Maza met the Planning Commission at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on October 10, when India's plans for raising production of finished steel to 4.5 million tons and for raising agricultural production by additions to hydro-electric projects were explained to him.

Dr. Maza said that Chile's problems were similar to those of India and that they had also an ambitious programme for agricultural development.

He suggested that a commission of technical experts from India could visit Chile and study the possibilities of collaboration in matters of trade and other fields between the two countries. Chile could also supply finished steel, if India wanted it, he added.

Indian Ambassador at Buenos Aires, Mr. N. Raghavan, who is also Minister to Chile, at the same time paid a visit to Chile and saw copper and nitrate mines. In Santiago, the Chilean Capital, the Ambassador held a reception for Foreign Office officials, diplomates and other distinguished persons.

China

Prime Minister's Visit

Chinese Prime Minister, Mr. Chou En-lai, is arriving in India in the end of November. He will be accorded civic reception by important Local Bodies in the country. During his stay in India Mr. Chou En-lai will also visit Nepal.

Peking's Municipal Achievements

Vice-Mayor Chang Yu-yu announced at the Local People's Congress, which opened in Peking on August 8 that over half of Peking's budget expenditure this year will go to economic construction, local industry and city construction being the major items. The budget shows an increase of 10.92 percent over last year's.

The consumer goods industry to be developed include a fluorescent lamp plant a woollen textile mill, a glass mill, etc. Over half of the acerage in the outskirt of the capital will be ploughed by tractors or modern farm tools.

Peking people will get over 11 lak square metres of new housing. There will be 31 new primary and secondary schools, three sports stadiums and a swimming pool. Two cinemas — one for children — and two open air theatres will be built. Hospital beds will increase by 35 percent over last year.

Giving an account of what had been achieved during the past seven years, Huseh Tzu-cheng, also Vice-Mayor of Peking, told the fourth session of Peking People's Congress that expenditure on municipal construction, apart from housing, in Peking during the past seven years was 25.5 percent of the capitai's total budget. An addition of 682 kilometres was made to the water supply network. Roads newly built or rebuilt during the period amounted to 680 kilometres. Main thoroughfares whhin the city, as well as roads leading to factories and sceninc spots on the outskirts, have been extended, or widened. Many formerly mud-surfaced streets have been asphalted.

Tram and bus lines that totalled only 71.7 kilometres in 1949 have been extended to over 403 kilometres and serve ten times the number of daily passengers compared with 1949. Night services have been added in the outskirts. Plans to replace trams with trackless trolley buses within the city and to extend tram lines into the outskirts were being worked out, the Vice-Mayor said. At present only buses run in the outskirts.

Four new parks have been laid out and all the existing ones extended or improved. The brand new Tao Jan Ting Park in the south west of the city contains China's biggest swimming centre.

India-Tibet Air Link

An India-Tibet air link was established on October 24 when an Indian Air Force Ilyushin transport aircraft successfully completed its first trans-Himalyan flight. The first such flight was made by an IAF Dakota in 1954 when certain medicines were air-dropped near Gyantse. The *Meghdoot* had taken off from the IAF Station Jorhat at 7 A. M., landing at Tanshung at 9.40 A. M., oveorflying Lhasa. While crossing the Himalayan hump, the aircraft flew over a number of peaks hitherto unsurveyed some of them over 24,000 feet above sea-level.

France

India's Ambassador

Sardar K. M. Panikkar has been appointed Indian Ambassador to France. He succeeds

Sardar H. S. Malik, who has held the post for seven years.

Sardar Panikkar (61) was India's Ambassador to China from 1948 to 1952 and Ambassador to Egypt and Minister to Syria, Jordan, the Lebanon and Libya the following year.

Hongkong

Fiftysix Killed In Riots

Sir Alexander Grantham, Governor of Hongkong, said on October 16 that fifty-six people were killed in the riots in the previous week. He denied the allegations of the Chinese Prime Minister, Mr. Chou En-lai, that Hong Kong Government had failed to protect Chinese during the riots.

Trouble originally began over a dispute about a Nationalist flag. The British Govt. had said criminal societies then took advantage of the disturbed situation to move in. The Governor said their motive was "Protection money".

Indonesia

Too Many Parties

President Sukarno on October 29, speaking in Jakarta to a large meeting commemorating the 26th anniversary of the National Youth Organisation, called for an end to political parties in Indonesia. Dr. Sukarno said that the 1945 decision to form political parties was "a big mistake". It resulted in too many political parties and in "political sickness", he said. "This sickness is very dangerous when added to the sickness of regional and tribal feelings which now divide us", he added.

New Ambassador

General Abdul Kadir has been apponited Ambassador of Indonesia to India in succession to Dr. Palar. Born in 1906, Abdul Kadir was a civil servant from 1926 to 1934. He took an active part in the national struggle for independence during 1942-45. From 1948 to 1952 he was Indonesia's Minister Extraordinary in Afghanistan, Iran and Egypt. In July, 1955, he was appointed as Chief of Directorate of Africa and Middle East in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia.

Iran

2,000 Miles Rail Lines Planned

Mr. Ghafoori Ashtiyani, Director of Railway Stations, Iranian Railways, Tehran, who recently toured India for 3 months as a guest of the Indian Railways to learn methods of compilation of railway statistics in general and in particular mechanisation of statistics and compilation of hospital and accident statistics, said in an interview in Ajmer on September 13 that perhaps India ranks third in the world in the compilation of railway statistics, the first two places going to U. S. A. and England.

Mr. Ashtiyani said that Iran had about 3,000 miles of rail line and expected to add about 2,000 more miles within a year or two. He said work had already started on the 300-mile rail line which would connect Zaidan on the Iran-Pakistan border with the interior town of Meshad. When this line was completed, direct rail communication would be established from the Pakistan border to Tehran and neighbouring countries like Russia and the Arab States.

Israel

Achievements of Jerusalem Municipal Council

One of the outsanding achievements of the Jerusalem Municipal Council, which took office one year ago, has been the regaining of public confidence, Acting Mayor, Mr. Mordecai Ish-Shalom, declared on October 21 at a Press Conference called to hear a progress report on the Council's work. Mr. Ish-Shalom reported that a French engineering company was now putting the final touches to a city rejuvenation plan. Running into millions of pounds, the plan provides for the setting up of a sewage reclamation plant as part of a comprehensive solution of the sewage problem. The town lighting system would also be extended.

A Belgian company, he said, was working out a plan to build a slaughter house, a public market and possibly a central bus station. These would cost 1.5 million dollars.

The city was much cleaner than before, the Deputy Mayor stated, but it was not yet clean. It was hoped, he went on, that the City's Water Department would finish this year "with only a slight deficit or no deficit at all". The deficit in previous years had run to several hundred thousand pounds.

Tel Aviv Jubilee In 1959

In 1959 fifty years will have passed since the foundation of Tel Aviv by a group of Jews from nearby Jaffa. In anticipation of this jubilee the Tel Aviv Municipality is preparing several publications. A history af the twin towns has just appeared in Hebrew under the title "Tel Aviv-Jaffa". An illustrated album and a statistical hanbook of "Facts and Figures" would also be published.

Japan

Indian Vice-President's Visit

Special Honorary Citizenship of Tokyo was conferred on Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, India's Vice-President, on October 5. A certificate conferring the honour and the gilded Key of Tokyo was presented to him by the Tokyo Governor at a brief ceremony held at the latter's reception room in Tokyo. The Indian Vice-President was the 10th international dignitary to receive the honour. Three other Indians — Mrs. Vijay Laxmi Pandit, Mr. N. N. Mukherji, Mayor of Calcutta, and Mr. Chinubhai Chimanlal, former Mayor of Ahmedabad — are among those who have been honoured with ordinary Honorary Citizenship of Tokyo on earlier occasions.

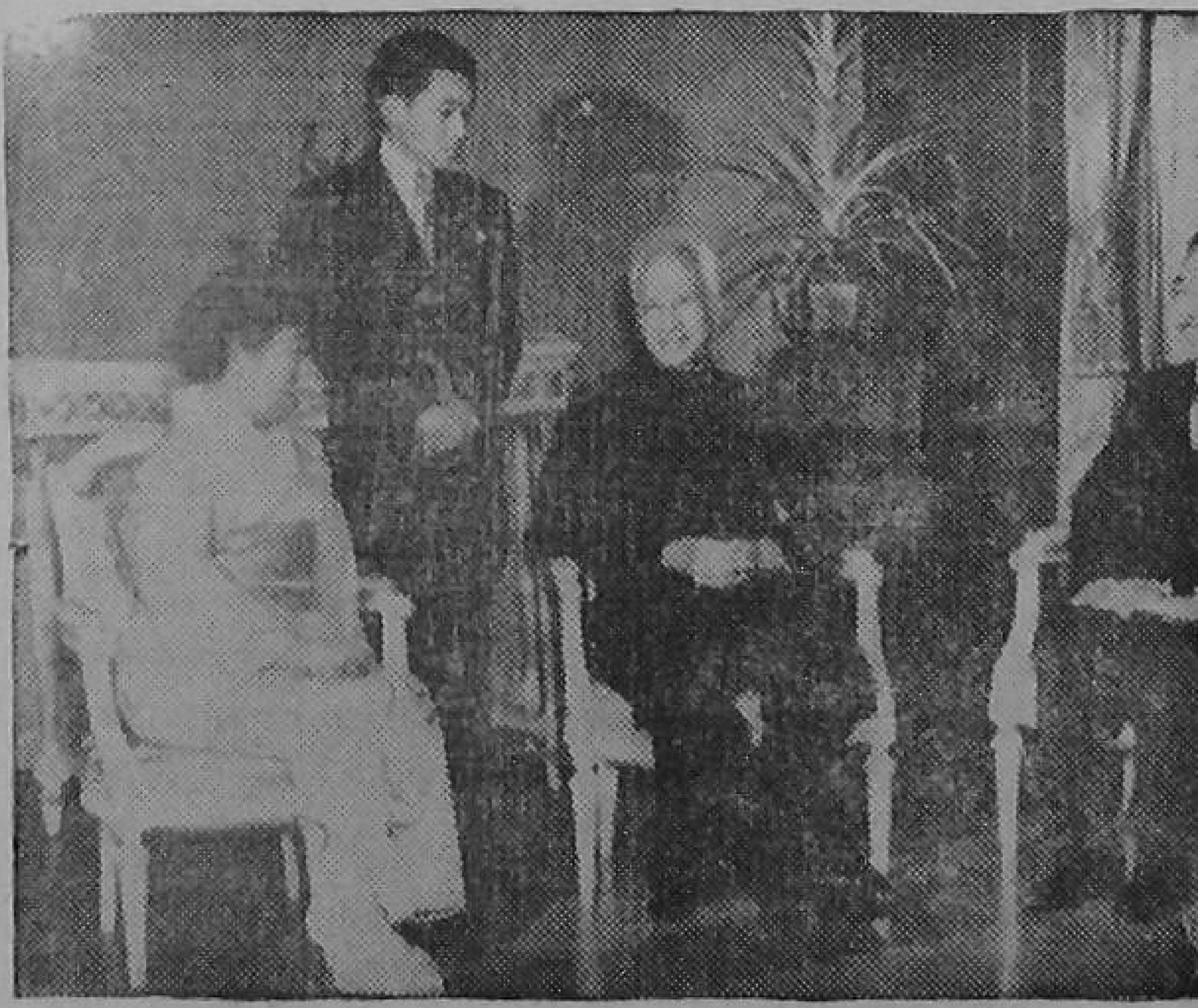
The Vice-President, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan recently made a State goodwill visit to South-East Asian countries. Among the countries he visited were Indonesia, Thailand and Japan, where he attended several functions and met important leaders.

In Tokyo, the Emperor and Empress of Japan gave a luncheon in his honour which was attended amomg others by Prince Akihito, Princess Mikasa, Prime Minister of Japan and Indian Ambassador B. R. Sen.

World Mayors' Conference

A World Mayors' Conference was held from October 1 to 4 in connection with the 500th anniversary of Tokyo's founding. Invitations to the Convention of the Mayors by Governor Seiichiro Yasui of Tokyo were sent out to 115 Mayors in 17 countries. Twentyseven Mayors from North and South America, Europe and Asia had promised to attend the Convention. India was represented by Calcutta's Deputy Mayor, Dr. Amarnath Mookerjee. Others came from Afghanistan, Canada, Ceylon, Formosa, Denmak, France, Iran, Italy, Israel, Pakistan, Switzerland, Turkey, and U. S. A.

In his address to the Convention, Dr. Mookerjee said Calcutta was beset by the problem of inflow of some 40,000 persons a month from East Pakistan, which constituted a big problem for the Union of India. Immigration of this extent had exhausted the big city's slender financial resources. Dr. Mookerjee also suggested the banning of Atomic Bomb test.



The Emperor and Empress of Japan are sitting with Dr. Radhakrishnan, Crown Prince Akihito is seen standing.

The Convention was held to publicise Tokyo's role as the capital of a peaceful and cultured nation and for promoting friendly ties among citizens, the world over.

The visiting mayors participated in the various events such as the establishment of Citizen's Day, the completion of a new Municipal Office building and the festivities marking the 500th anniversary of the construction of Edo Castle. The Mayors also discussed various aspects of city administration, commerce and industry, tourism, economic relationship between cities, exchange of culture, city planning and housing.

Depending on the successful outcome of the Convention, Tokyo officials said they would like to hold a World Mayors' Convention annually.

Nepal

President's Goodwill Tour Of Nepal

Over 2,000 years of history rolled back when the President Dr. Rajendra Prasad recently visit Nepal on his four-day tour.

The Indian Emperor Asoka, noted for his contribution to the spread of Buddhism, journeyed from his capital Pataliputra to various holy places in Nepal in 249 B.C. Today, when India along with many other countries, celebrates the 2,500th anniversary of the Buddha's Parinirvana, it is of the greatest significance that Nepal, India's close and friendly neighbour, should be the first foreign country that the Indian President visits after the assumption of his high office. The visit of Dr. Rajendra Prasad who has always taken a deep interest in mountain-girt Nepal, will help cement the ties of friendship that have bound the two countries together for centuries. A Civic Address was presented by Kathmandu Municipal Board to the President of India on October 21.

Speaking at a royal banquet in Kathmandu on October 23 night, the Indian President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, said India had no territorial ambitions and none need fear any aggression from her.

"We do not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries," he declared. The Indian president also said that any threat to the peace and security of Nepal was as much a threat to the peace and security of India. "Your friends are our friends and our friends yours," he said. The President hoped that the inseparable links binding India and Nepal from times immemorial would bind the two countries for ever.

This was regarded as the most important public pronouncement made by the President of India during his four-day State visit to Nepal.

Indian Constitution "One of the Best in the World"

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, addressing the Nepal Council of Asian Relations in Kathmandu on October 22, said that the destinies of the countries of Asia were linked. The Indian President said that since the first country chosen for a visit by king Mahendra was India, it was fitting that the first official visit of the President of the Indian Republic should be to Nepal. The Chairman of the Council, Shree Subarna Shamsher, said Dr. Prasad was a worthy disciple of Mahatma Gandhi. As

The president, Dr. Rajendra Prasad is seen with the Queen and the King of Nepal.

President of the Indian Constituent Assembly, he said, Dr. Prasad was responsible for the Indian Constitution, "which is considered to be one of the best in the world."

Bhaktapore Civic Address

On October 22 Bhaktapore Municipality presented a civic address to Dr. Rajendra Prasad. In his address the Chairman of the Municipality praised India and the progress she had made since independence. Replying, Dr. Prasad said that he wanted to assure the people of Nepal personally and on behalf of the Indian Government and people that "we are proud of the tradition of your freedom and peace." He said the city of Bhaktapore was a relic of the ancient heritage of Nepal's culture and "I have full faith that even a more bright future is in store for you."

Lalitpur Civic Address

Replying to a civic address presented by the Lalitpur Municipality, the Indian President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, said it was his privilege to tread humbly in the footsteps of Emperor Asoka. "I come today with a message of peace and goodwill and friendship from the people of India to the people of Nepal," he declared. The Chairman of the Lalitpur Municipality had recalled the ancient bonds between India and Nepal and the visit of Emperor Asoka to Lalitpur.

Nepal's First National Highway

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, also inspected Tribhuvan Raj path, Nepal's first national highway. Constructed by Indian army engineers at the request of the Nepal Government, the 79-mile highway connecting Kathmandu with its rich southern plains and India, is named after Nepal's late king Tribhuvan. Preliminary work on the highway was started in March, 1952, and it has taken the engineers three years to complete the road, which will ultimately cost the Indian exchequer nearly Rs. 2.5 crores.

The highway, often described as "Nepal's road to prosperity", connects Thankot, seven miles from Kathmandu, with Bhainse Dobhan, on the existing road between Amlekhgunj, the rail terminus, and Bhimpedi. From Amlekhgunj, a narrow guage railway line and a road run to Raxaul, 30 miles away in Champaran district of Bihar.

Nearly 300,000 pound of explosives went into blasting the highway through three successive folds of mountains. The road is dotted over with 800 culverts and seven bridges. A Nepalese labour force of between 4,000 and 6,000 per day helped the Indian engineers.

Twenty-one feet wide and capable of two-way traffic, the road has a macadamized surface which may be tarred. It will be completed and handed over to the Nepalese Government by the end of this year.

Trisuli Power Project

The Union Planning Minister, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, who returned to India with the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, on October 24 from Kathmandu, said **that Nepal was making gigantic efforts at industrial development.** Mr. Nanda said that the Government of India was prepared to invest Rs. 3 crores on the Trisuli power project of the Nepal Government near Kathmandu.

Chinese Economic Aid

China is to give Nepal economic assistance worth Rs. 6 crores over the next three years under an economic agreement signed in Peking on October 7. A Government spokesman said there were "no strings attached" to the assistance and Nepal is free to use the money and materials as she wishes. China would not send technicians to Nepal under the agreement.

A joint statement, issued by the Premiers of the two countries, Mr. Chou En-lai and Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya, on the occasion in Peking, said the two countries would make efforts to develop further their good relations and stressed that the Panch Shila guided these relations.

Nepali Congress Working Committee

On October 28, the President of the Nepali Congress, Mr. Subarna Shamsher, dissolved the party's Working Committee and its all other committees.

Indian Currency

The Finance Minister, Sardar Gunjman Singh, said in Kathmandu on October 4 that the Nepal Government did not contemplate making Indian currency illegal tender. The Minister said that while it was the Government's policy ultimately to fix exchange rate between Indian and Nepalese currencies at 100 Indian rupees equalling 128 Nepalese rupees, this could not be brought about by arbitrary orders.

Pakistan

Karachi's Diputed Mayorality

A motion of no-confidence was passed by the Karachi Municipal Corporation against its Mayor, Mr. Siddiq Wahab, on October 3, while he was in Tokyo attending the World Mayors' Convention. Mr. Wahab was elected Mayor last year. The Deputy Mayor, Mr. Jamil Ahmad, was asked to act as Mayor in place of Mr. Wahab after the passing of the no confidence motion.

Mr. Siddiq Wahab, who returned to Karachi post haste from Tokyo, contended that he was still the Mayor and that the motion of no-confidence passed against him was *ultra vires*.

The three-day-old confusion as to who was Karachi's Mayor was climaxed on Oct. 5 with the Chief Officer of the Corporation declining " to associate himself further with the Corporation's affairs because of the prevailing conditions". The Chief Officer, Mr. Ismail Ahmed Minai, told the Press he had conveyed his views to the two claimants to the Mayoralty—Mr. Siddiq Wahab, and Mr. Jamil Ahmed.

According to his opponents, Mr. Siddiq Wahab was ousted from office on October 3 with the passage of a no-confidence motion against him. They claimed that 45 or 47 members who attended the 100-member council meeting, had voted for the motion. The Deputy Mayor, Mr. Jamil Ahmed, according to them, should hold the Mayoral office till a new incumbent is elected.

Mr. Jamil Ahmed told the Press on October 5 afternoon that Mr. Wahab had handed over change to him " honourably " and as a gesture had removed the Mayoral flag from his car. Within the minutes of Mr. Ahmed's statement, Mr. Wahab challenged it and said he remained the " real Mayor ". Mr. Ahmed also announced that he had convened a meeting of the Corporation Council for October 15 to elect a Mayor.

Mr. Siddiq Wahab on October 10 went before a Division Bench of the West Pakistan High Court in Karachi with a writ petition, seeking to restrain the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Jamil Ahmed, from " interfering " with his privileges as Mayor. The Division Bench admitted the petition and fixed November 19 for regular hearing. It also issued an interim order restraining the Deputy Mayor from holding a meeting of the Corporation on October 15, which he had called to elect the new Mayor.

Mr. Siddiq Wahab in his petition contended that the meeting of the Corporation on October 3, while he was in Tokyo, at which a motion of no-confidence in him was passed, was *ultra vires*. He alleged that when he returned to Karachi from Tokyo he was "forcibly restrained from entering the Mayoral chamber and threatened with physical injury".

Last Card of Democracy

Mr. Jafar Shah, Pakistan's Communication Minister, said in Dacca on October 19 that the present Pakistan Government was " the last card " of democracy in the country and " if we fail I am afraid there will be no democracy in Pakistan ". He described those who were in power in the past as " usurpers " and said that through their " wanton nepotism " they had created mass frustration among the people who lacking the sense of security would not care to develop the sense of responsibility as a citizen.

Delay In General Elections

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Suhrawardy, declared in Lahore on October 3 that it would not be possible to hold general elections in Pakistan before March, 1958.

Philippines

New Ambassador

Mr. M. J. Gamboa has been appointed Minister of the Philippines to India.

KANPUR DEVELOPMENT BOARD

ANNOUNCE

EASTERN GREEN BELT SCHEME

NEAR JAJMAU

Fringed by rich farmlands and orchards and the quiet country seats of city's elite along the holy Ganga, the new industrial-cum-residential area in this scheme will reflect and increase the prosperity of Greater Kanpur.

Some telling Features of the Scheme :

★ Area under Development	500 acres
★ Area for a Rayon Mills	100 acres
★ Area of Labour Housing	60 acres
★ Cost of Labour Housing	Rs. 44 lakhs.
★ Number of Quarters for Industrial Labour under construction	1,370
★ Length of main 100 ft. Road from Jajmau to Grand Trunk Road	2 miles
★ No. of Residential and Commercial Plots of varying sizes	1,500
★ Development budget for the Scheme	Rs. 50 lakhs.

RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR INDUSTRIALISTS, BUSINESSMEN, MERCHANTS & TRADERS, FOR SHARING IN KANPUR'S CO-PROSPERITY CAMPAIGN

For particulars, please cantact or write to :

S. A. Rehman,
Scheme Secretary, Jajmau,
Development Board, Kanpur.